RevWar Symposium
The World Turned Upside Down:
The American Revolution's Impact on a Global Scale

September 24

Symposium on Sept. 24 with Historic Alexandria and Emerging Revolutionary War
The World Turned Upside Down: The American Revolution’s Impact on a Global Scale
Alexandria’s History Museum at the Lyceum
September 24
$60 per person, $50 OHA Members & Students. $30 Virtual only
Reservations here.

Historic Alexandria strives to use history to spark curiosity & reflection. As we approach the upcoming 250th anniversary of our nation, examining our American Experiment is key. Explore topics with public historians during a one-day symposium in partnership with Emerging Revolutionary War. The American Revolution created waves across the world with its lasting impacts felt even today. This symposium will study the effects of this revolution that transformed governments and the governed across the globe.

Join the City of Alexandria's Community Remembrance Project and Engage with History This Fall

The Alexandria Community Remembrance Project (ACRP) invites residents to participate in events this
fall to reflect upon and memorialize the lives of lynching victims Joseph McCoy (1897) and Benjamin Thomas (1899), while also acknowledging and engaging with this difficult past. The ACRP will hold a soil collection ceremony on September 24 to collect soil representing the lives of both young men. The ACRP will then hold a pilgrimage, from October 6-10 to deliver the soil to the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama. The registration deadline is September 6.

On September 24 the ACRP will hold a Soil Collection Ceremony for both McCoy and Thomas at Market Square at 4 p.m. At this event, participants will have the opportunity to add soil representing the lives of both young men to specially made jars by EJI bearing their names.

Then, as a community, participants will travel with this sacred soil to Montgomery, Alabama and deliver the jars to their final resting place at the National Memorial for Peace and Justice. This Pilgrimage will take place from October 6-10 and will focus on the history and legacy of racial terror in this country, as well as the struggle for social justice. Participants will also tour civil rights sites in both Montgomery and Selma and hear first-hand accounts from civil rights activists from these communities.

The ACRP pilgrimage includes chartered buses, discounted hotel stays, curated social justice tours, most meals, and evening programs with guest speakers. Online registration is now available until September 6.

The ACRP is a city-wide initiative dedicated to helping Alexandria understand its history of racial terror hate crimes and to working towards creating a welcoming community bound by equity and inclusion. This project, managed by the Office of Historic Alexandria, partners with the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama. This national nonprofit was started by “Just Mercy” author and attorney Bryan Stevenson.

Stevenson also established the National Memorial for Peace and Justice. The memorial consists of 800 hanging steel pillars representing the more than 4,000 documented Black American lynching victims. Jurisdictions are invited to participate in EJI’s Community Remembrance Project by continuing to research their lynching history, offering educational programs, holding a soil collection, erecting interpretive markers, offering an essay contest, and making a community pilgrimage to EJI. Jurisdictions are encouraged to participate in EJI’s program to “claim” their lynching pillar as a permanent memorial in their community. To date, EJI has not released any pillars to partnering communities.

The Alexandria Community Remembrance Project (ACRP) was formally organized and launched by the City Council in 2019. Since then, more than 300 volunteers have supported the work of the ACRP. Volunteers have researched and published the history of the two documented lynchings, developed historic markers that are posted near the places where each young man was lynched, held remembrance ceremonies for McCoy and Thomas, and provided lectures and educational events. The work of confronting this past continued virtually throughout the pandemic. Beginning in 2020, the ACRP held its first in-person remembrance for Joseph McCoy and Benjamin Thomas.

To learn more about Joseph McCoy and Benjamin Thomas, sign up for the newsletter, or join a committee, visit the ACRP web page. Visit alexandriava.gov/Historic for more information.

**Coming Events**

**Junior Docent Tours & Historic Chocolate Demonstrations**

*Gadsby’s Tavern Museum*

*Last day is Sunday, September 4*

*2-5 p.m.*

*Regular admission, City of Alexandria residents FREE*

Gadsby’s Tavern Museum’s Junior Docent Program is back with an exciting new offering this summer thanks to AMERICAN HERITAGE® Chocolate! Every Sunday through Labor Day weekend
from 2-5 p.m. guests can meet Junior Docents who will be stationed throughout the tavern. They will be sharing the history of early America and the tavern, but also the history of chocolate! This includes a hands-on demonstration of historic chocolate making in the Ballroom. Visitors from past years have found the students’ unique perspective and enthusiasm for history an “exciting treat” that brings a “fun element” to the tour.

Civil War History in the Garden Tour
Lee Fendall House Museum and Garden
September 3
10-11 a.m.
$10, Tickets available here

Sit in the shade of the Lee-Fendall garden and learn how the American Civil War impacted soldiers and civilians in Alexandria. During the war, African American refugees from slavery sought freedom in the city while Confederate sympathizers fled. Alexandria served as a major supply and staging area for the Union Army as well as a medical center.

At the Lee-Fendall House, which served as a Union hospital, learn about medical advancements and specifically the use of plants to treat sick and wounded soldiers.

The tour is 1 hour long with a limit of 15 people. For more information, please call 703.548.1789 or email contact@leefendallhouse.org.

Blood and Strikes: American Labor in the 20th Century
Lee Fendall House Museum and Garden
September 3
2 p.m.
$10, Tickets available here.

From deadly mine explosions to wartime strikes, the history of the 20th century American labor movement is full of violence and controversy. This Labor Day weekend, learn about the struggle for workers’ rights at the home of one of its most powerful spokesmen, John L. Lewis.

Tickets must be purchased in advance. The tour is limited to 12 participants. For more information, please call (703)548-1789 or email contact@leefendallhouse.org.

Prohibition in Alexandria Walking Tour
Lee Fendall House Museum and Garden
September 10
10-11:30 a.m.
$15, Tickets available here.

Discover the forgotten stories of teetotalers and bootleggers on this walking tour of Prohibition-era Alexandria. Learn about the dramatic campaign to ban alcohol in Virginia which threatened a long tradition of local alcohol production and sale. The tour begins at the Lee-Fendall House, home to the Downham family, who were once one of the city’s most prominent liquor dealers.

The tour is limited to 12 participants and lasts approximately an hour and a half. Walking tours take place rain or shine so please wear appropriate shoes and clothing.Tickets must be purchased in advance. For more information, please call (703)548-1789 or email contact@leefendallhouse.org.

Civil War Artillery Day at Fort Ward
Fort Ward Museum and Historic Site
September 17
10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Free

Learn about the role and equipment of Civil War artillerymen in the Defenses of Washington on Saturday, September 17, when Fort Ward Museum presents Civil War Artillery Day. This free living history program is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will appeal to Civil War enthusiasts of all ages. The event is weather dependent.

The program features reenactors from the 1st Connecticut Heavy Artillery, a Union regiment stationed at Fort Ward during the Civil War. The unit will interpret the duties and soldier life of typical artillerymen assigned to forts in the Washington area. Activities will include cannon firing demonstrations in the restored Northwest bastion of the fort at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., artillery equipment displays, and camp life scenarios.

Historic Alexandria receives City operational funding to support its mission; however, these resources do not cover the full scope of the department’s strategic goals and projects. Donations, special revenue, and grant funding help supplement staff, conservation work, and educational programs. Please consider a donation today!

Historic Alexandria Museum Hours

Currently, the following City Museums are open to the public:

Alexandria Archaeology Museum  
*Wednesdays–Fridays, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sundays, 1–5 p.m.*

Alexandria History Museum at The Lyceum  
*Thursdays & Fridays, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sundays, 1–5 p.m.*

Fort Ward Museum  
*Thursdays & Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays 1-5 p.m.*

Freedom House Museum  
*Thursdays and Fridays, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.- 5 p.m., and Sundays and Mondays, 1-5 p.m.*

Friendship Firehouse Museum (September 10, October 15)  
*11 a.m. – 5 p.m.*

Gadsby’s Tavern Museum  
*Thursdays & Fridays, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sundays–Tuesdays, 1 – 5 p.m.*

Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum  
*Wednesdays–Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays & Mondays, 1 - 5 p.m.*

Visit our website and follow us on social media to discover new things about your hometown. For more information, please visit alexandriava.gov/historic.

Due to the changing nature of the COVID-19 situation, we are providing updates on our website. For additional information about the City of Alexandria’s actions, visit https://www.alexandriava.gov/Coronavirus.
On September 2, 1846, Alexandrians voted 763 to 22 to retrocede from the District of Columbia back to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Though Alexandria had been included within the District for nearly 50 years, residents lamented their loss of voting rights and lack of resources invested in the area by the federal government. A proposal to outlaw slavery in the national capital also influenced the referendum, as Alexandria was then a major slave trading center and with the city’s economy relying heavily on slave labor, both downtown and in the rural agricultural areas that surrounded it. When the vote was tallied at the courthouse on North Columbus Street, some African Americans sat on the curb and cried, realizing that a return to Virginia governance would end educational opportunities for black schoolchildren in Alexandria.

UPCOMING COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE EVENTS

**Virtual-August 29, ACRP Pilgrimage Committee**
Registration Link [here](#).
7-8 p.m.

**August 30, ACRP Steering Committee**
*Lloyd House*
4-5 p.m.

**Sept. 6, HARC Advocacy Committee**
*La Madeleine Restaurant, 500 King St.*
10-11 a.m.