

Colonial Williamsburg

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
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Colonial Williamsburg Welcomes New Director of Archaeology Jack Gary



WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (Aug. 21, 2018) – Colonial Williamsburg welcomes Jack Gary as the foundation’s new director of archaeology. A member of the Collections, Conservation and Museums Division, beginning this month Gary will oversee ongoing archaeological research, collections, interpretive programming and educational outreach.

A graduate of the College of William & Mary, Gary joins Colonial Williamsburg from Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest, where he served as director of archaeology and landscapes beginning in 2006.

“Jack brings a wealth of experience and energy to his new role as Colonial Williamsburg’s director of archaeology, and we are pleased to welcome him,” said Ghislain D’Humieres, Colonial Williamsburg senior vice president of core operations. “He joins a remarkable team that will develop new programming for our planned Archaeological Collections Building and support Colonial Williamsburg’s role as a regional center for archaeology, research and preservation.”

In addition to his work in Virginia, Gary has conducted research in New York and Massachusetts with specific interests in plantation and ornamental landscapes, the material culture of marginalized communities, environmental investigations of historic landscapes and applications of geographic information systems to historical archaeology. He earned his master's degree in historical archaeology from the University of Massachusetts Boston and is co-editor of "Jefferson's Poplar Forest: Unearthing a Virginia Plantation." He is the immediate past president of the Council of Virginia Archaeologists.

"Academic research is the lifeblood of Colonial Williamsburg's educational mission, from the Historic Area's restoration to innovation in the site preservation and programming our guests enjoy every day," said Ronald L. Hurst, Colonial Williamsburg's Carlisle H. Humelsine chief curator and vice president of collections, conservation and museums. "Jack's leadership in archaeological research is ideally suited to our work at Colonial Williamsburg, and we're thrilled to have him on our team."

Colonial Williamsburg's archaeological research includes site investigations such as the annual Archaeological Field School operated in partnership with the College of William & Mary. The foundation's archaeological collections encompass more than 60 million items, which are to be housed in a new archaeological collections building supported by a \$10 million gift from the late Forrest E. Mars, Jr. Guest programs including "Rubbish, Treasures, and Colonial Life: The Archaeology Labs" and "DUG!: The Cleaner Side of Archaeology" engage guests with the science and relevance of the foundation's archaeological research.

"I am honored to lead a department with such an important legacy of historical research and outreach. Colonial Williamsburg is a massive archaeological laboratory where visitors from around the world get a better understanding of the beginnings of our country and the methods we use to study our collective past," Gary said. "The collection of artifacts in conjunction with future excavations presents innumerable opportunities for new programs, restorations, and research that will continue to move Colonial Williamsburg in new directions."

Additional information about Colonial Williamsburg is available online at www.colonialwilliamsburg.com, by calling 1-855-296-6627 toll-free, by downloading the free Colonial Williamsburg Explorer app via the Apple App Store and Google Play, and by following Colonial Williamsburg on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/colonialwilliamsburg) and [@colonialwmsburg](https://www.instagram.com/colonialwilliamsburg) on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/colonialwilliamsburg) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/colonialwilliamsburg).

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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 nearly 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.