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VIRGINIA  **250**
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

**VIRGINIA'S HISTORY
IS
AMERICA'S STORY**

VA250.org

Virginia's History is America's Story



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- General Assembly leadership
 - Del. Terry Austin, Chair
 - Sen. Mamie Locke, Vice Chair
- Colonial Williamsburg
- VMHC
- JYF
- Gunston Hall
- Monticello
- Secretary of Education
- Virginia Tourism

- Department of Historic Resources
- Library of Virginia
- Virginia Bar Association
- American Battlefield Trust



VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2020 SESSION

CHAPTER 914

Article 11.

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 25 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 11, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-2544 through 2.2-2550, relating to the American Revolution 250 Commission; report.

Approved April 9, 2020. [H 1424]

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:
1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 25 of Title 2.2 an article numbered 11, consisting of sections numbered 2.2-2544 through 2.2-2550, as follows:

Article 11.

§ 2.2-2544. American Revolution 250 Commission.

The American Revolution 250 Commission (the Commission) is established as an advisory commission within the executive branch of state government.

The purpose of the Commission is to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War, and the independence of the United States.

§ 2.2-2545. Membership; terms; quorum; meetings.

A. The Commission shall have a total membership of 22 members that shall consist of 17 nonlegislative citizen members and five ex officio members. Members shall be appointed as follows:

1. One representative from each of the local commemoration partners: the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, the primary state agency and fiscal agent; the Virginia Museum of History & Culture, the primary nonstate agency; and Gunston Hall, the primary representative of Virginia's historic homes and related sites.

2. One representative from the American Battlefield Trust, the secretariat of the United States Sesquicentennial Commission, and one representative from the Virginia Bar Association.

3. Six members appointed by the Governor from a list of 10 provided by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation; and

4. Six members appointed by the Governor from a list of 10 provided by the Virginia Museum of History & Culture.

The Secretary of Education, the Librarian of Virginia, the Director of the Department of Historic Resources, the Executive Director of Virginia Humanities, and the Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Tourism Authority, or their designees, shall serve as ex officio members with voting privileges. Nonlegislative citizen members of the Commission shall be citizens of the Commonwealth.

B. The Commission shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership.

C. Nonlegislative citizen members shall be appointed for the duration of the Commission's activities. Appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired terms. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

§ 2.2-2546. Quorum; meetings.

A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum. The meetings of the Commission will be held at the call of the chair or whenever a majority of the members so request.

§ 2.2-2547. Compensation; expenses.

Nonlegislative citizen members of the Commission shall not receive compensation or reimbursement for travel and other expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

§ 2.2-2548. Powers and duties of the Commission.

The Commission shall have the power and duty to:

1. Formulate and implement a program for the inclusive observance of the 250th anniversary of the independence of the United States and the Revolutionary War in Virginia, including (i) civic, cultural, and historical education and scholarship concerning the ideals of the American Revolution and their contemporary relevance; (ii) visitation of museums and historic sites, including battlefields; (iii) creation and publication of historical documents and studies; (iv) cooperation with agencies responsible for the preservation or restoration of historic sites, buildings, art, and artifacts; (v) establishment of exhibitions and interpretive and wayfinding signage; (vi) arrangement of appropriate public ceremonies; (vii) a comprehensive marketing and tourism campaign encompassing calendar year 2025 through calendar year 2026; and (viii) the general dissemination of public information regarding Virginia's involvement in the American Revolution and its legacy today.

2. Submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Commission no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly.

Virginia leads the nation's 250th

- Strong state support
- Robust local committees
- Committed corporate partners
- Honorary Leadership Council
- 50-state partnerships



Guiding Principles and Themes

- Statewide commemoration
- Multi-faceted and inclusive of all perspectives
- Every Virginian can see their story

Virginia's history is America's story.

What's your story?

In Virginia, the American Revolution was a war, and more than a war. It was a *Revolution of Ideas.*





WHAT IS PAST
IS PROLOGUE

- **\$1.5 Billion** economic impact to Virginia
- **22,000 Jobs** created across the Commonwealth
- **\$50 Million** in state and local tax revenue
- **9 Million** people participating in events and programs
- **Extensive** media impressions, interviews, articles, social media interaction



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Plans in Development



SNEAK PEEK

Signature Exhibition with Traveling Panels

- Partnership between Virginia Museum of History and Culture and Jamestown Yorktown Foundation
- (Part I) 5,000 sq. ft. cutting-edge museum exhibition with online component for schools
- (Part II) Traveling Panel Exhibition
 - Provided to localities, at no cost, for display in small museums, libraries, community centers



Mobile Museum













1776

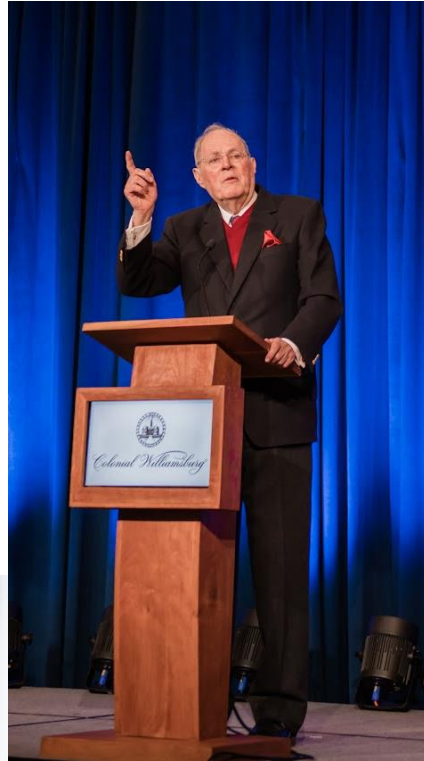


2026



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A Common Cause To All





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Save the Date!

2024

Monday, March 18 – Wednesday, March 20

2025

Monday, March 24 – Wednesday, March 26

Colonial Williamsburg
Williamsburg Lodge



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*A Common Cause
To All*

*A Convening of States
on the
250th Anniversary*

*of the call for
Committees of Correspondence*

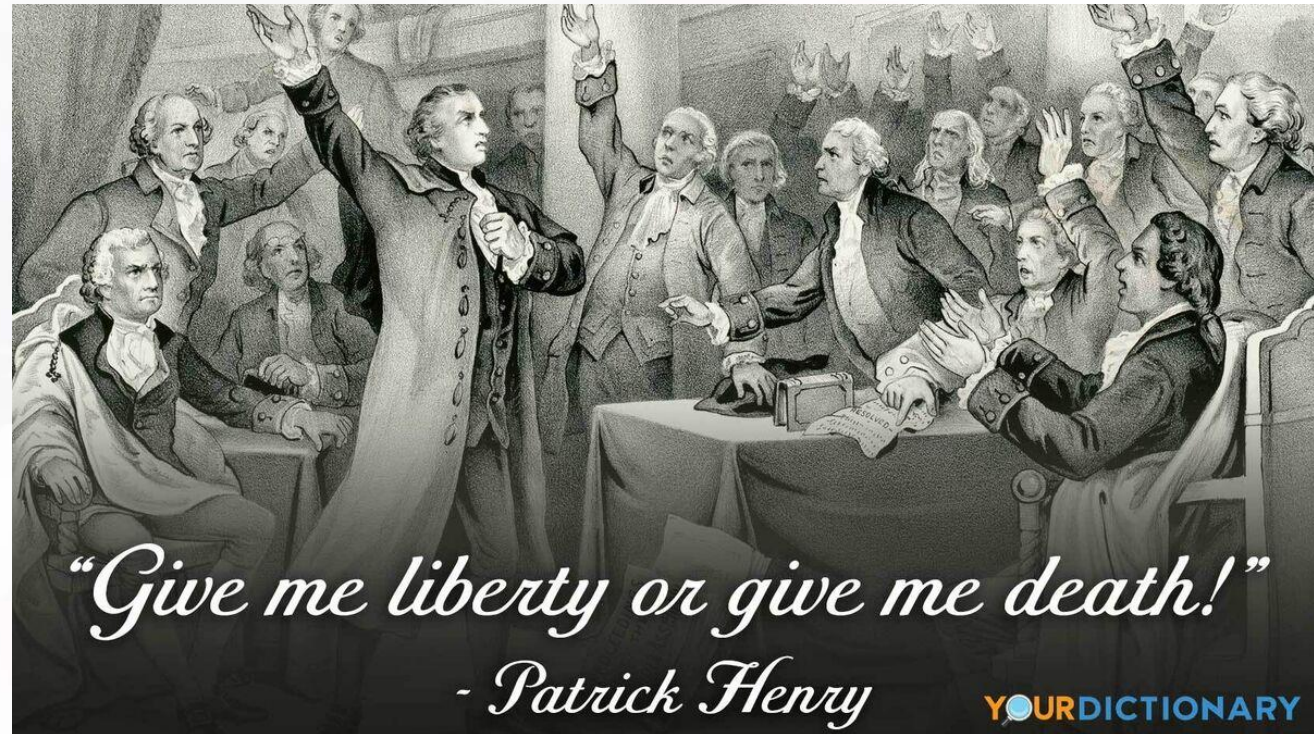
A Signature Event of the
Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
Williamsburg, Virginia
March 10 - 12, 2023

- Fairfax Resolves
- Resolution of the Freeholders of Albemarle County
- **Lafayette's Grand Tour** – 200th Anniversary
- **Battle of Point Pleasant**
- Fort Gower Resolves
- **Yorktown Tea Party 250th**
- Multi-state coordination of Historic Tea Party anniversaries



- VBA law symposium
- Fincastle resolutions
- Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" speech
- Gunpowder Incident
- Battle of Hampton
- Battle of Kemp's Landing
- Battle of Great Bridge



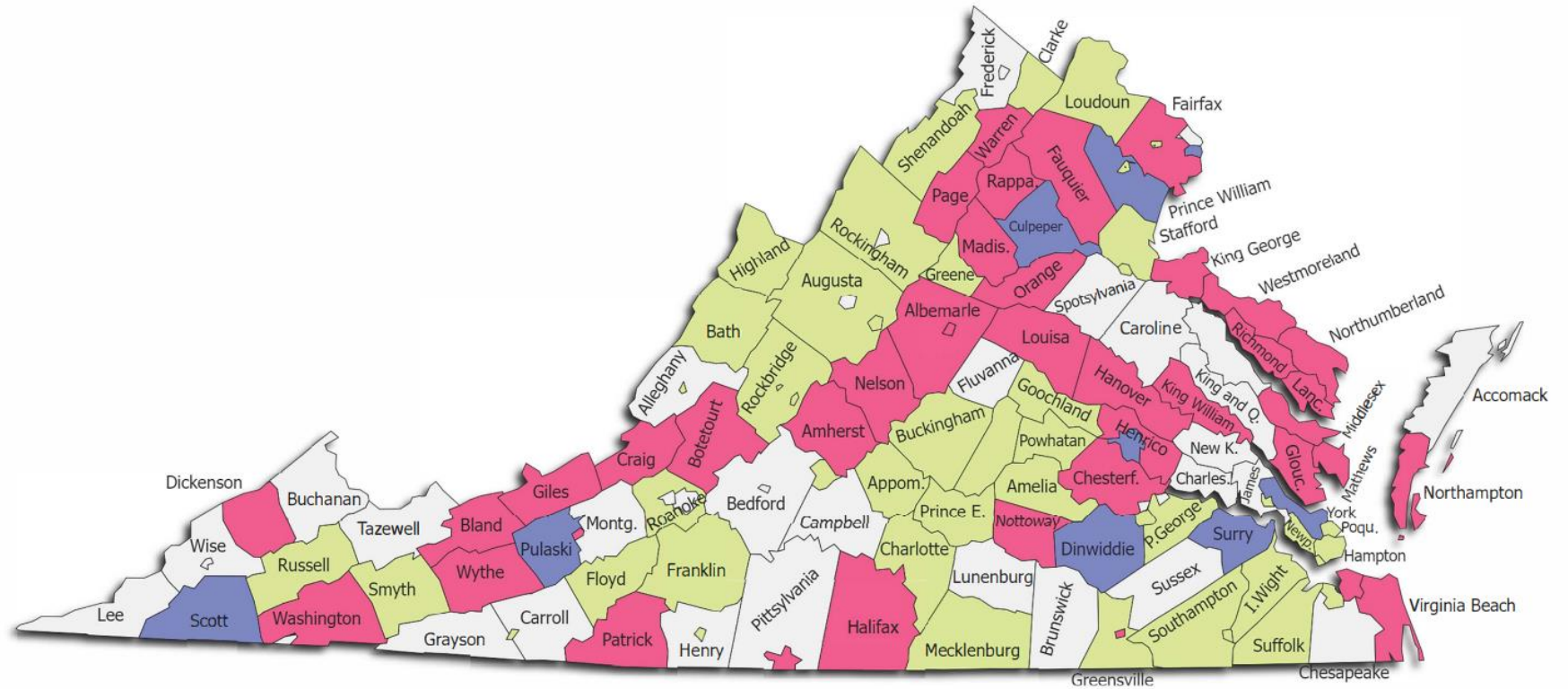
- **Fifth Virginia Convention: Virginia's Independence Day** (May 15)
 - **Virginia Declaration of Rights** (June 12, Gunston Hall)
 - **Sail 250** (June 19-24)
 - **Independence Day** (July 4)
-
- Formation of First Baptist Church
 - First Meeting of General Assembly



2031: Siege of Yorktown and Cornwallis' Surrender

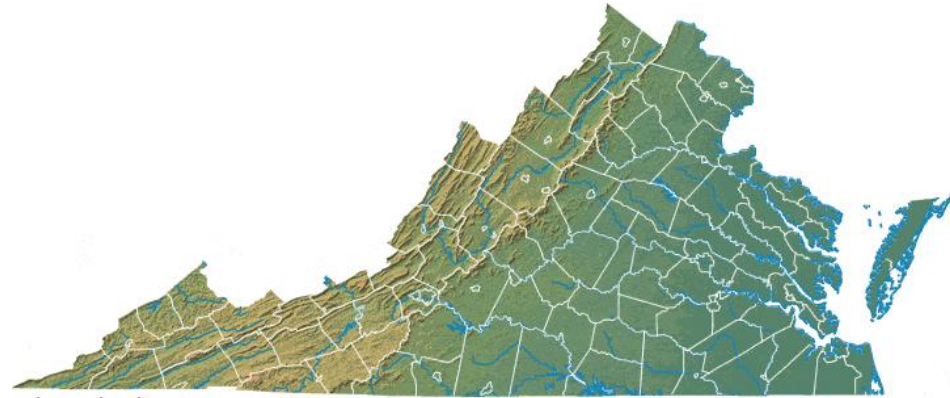
American Independence is secured at Yorktown





- Resolution + Microsite
- Resolution
- Contact

Resources to support Local VA250 Committees



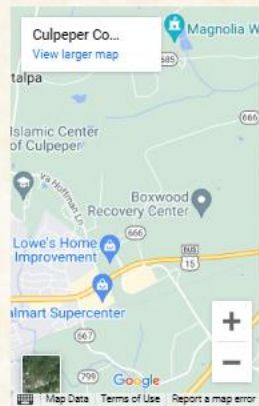
- Interactive Statewide Calendar of Events
 - Dedicated page on VA250.org to highlight local history, events
 - Customized logo with locality name
 - Amplification of events across social media
-
- VA250 grant program to provide funding to local committees
 - Virginia Tourism VA250 Marketing Leverage Grants
 - Specifically includes *Road to Revolution* interpretive signage
 - Virginia Humanities VA250 Content Development Grants
 - Virginia Commission for the Arts Community Partnership Program Grants

Culpeper County



Contact

Nicole Warner
540-729-4658



About

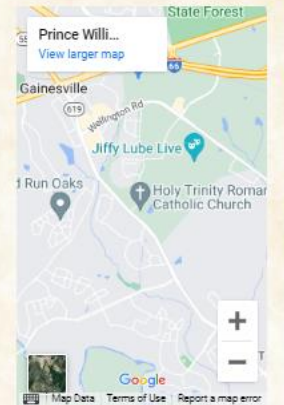
Chartered in 1749, Culpeper County was named for Lord Thomas Culpeper, Colonial Governor of Virginia, 1680-1683. That year, at the age of 17, George Washington was commissioned to survey and plot the Town and the County of Culpeper. The Town of Culpeper was chartered in 1759 by an Act of the General Assembly as the Town of Fairfax and it was recorded that the Town occupied a "high and pleasant situation." It was named after Lord Culpeper's grandson, Lord Fairfax the sixth. The early 27-acre courthouse village was developed on land included in a 1754 purchase by Robert Coleman. Coleman purchased the land from the eldest son of Virginia Governor Alexander Spotswood, who had received the land in a grant from the British Crown.

Prince William County



Contact

Dan Goldstein
703-895-6106



About

Explore the 12 sites within Prince William County & the city of Manassas, Virginia designated as part of the Revolutionary War History Trail. The Revolutionary War History Trail connects visitors with the great campaigns and lesser-known sites of the Revolutionary War in this region. Illustrated signs combine storytelling with historic images at each historic site. Rippon Lodge Historic Site leads the county's commemoration with events scheduled throughout the

Commemoration related events are already happening throughout Virginia and can be found in the listing below. If you would like VA250 to include events not currently listed here, please submit them to Trevor Grimm, at tgrimm@va250.org and continue to check back regularly for more events as they are scheduled and added to this site.

City/County **Category** **Start Date** **End Date**

[View Events](#)

Reign & Rebellion

November 05, 2022 - September 05, 2023

York County

Discover Virginia through the lens of the Stuart monarchy, whose royal foothold impacted and influenced early America and shaped the struggles and determination of those who lived in the colony in the 17th and 18th centuries. This upcoming two-fo...

[Read More](#)



Loquacious Lucy, Queen for a Day

February 04, 2023 - March 11, 2023

City of Williamsburg

When Lucy, a gregarious and loquacious enslaved child, learns that her best friend has been sold, her father must teach her hard lessons about slavery and instill in her the pride of her ancestors.

Every Saturday Feb 4 - Mar 11 (except Feb 18)....

[Read More](#)



A Common Cause to All

March 10, 2023 - March 12, 2023

City of Williamsburg

March 12, 2023 is the 250th Anniversary of Virginia forming its [Committee of Correspondence](#) in order to secure united acti...

[Read More](#)



8th Annual Prince William/Manassas History Symposium

March 25, 2023 - March 25, 2023

City of Manassas

Prince William County has many different layers to its history, and many individuals have shaped its complex past. Come learn about some of the early pioneers in County history at the Eighth Annual Prince William/Manassas History Symposium: "Histor...

[Read More](#)



Liberty Celebration

July 04, 2023

York County

This Fourth of July, take in Liberty Celebration and salute the 247th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown offers a special lineup July 4 to mark the patriotic occasion. From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., vis...

[Read More](#)



Harvest Day at Rippon Lodge

September 23, 2023

Prince William County

Learn the history of harvest day during the colonial era at Rippon Lodge Historic Site. Crafts, picking fresh veggies from the garden, pumpkin painting, farm animals, lawn games, and other fun, family activities planned. Advanced registration strongl...

[Read More](#)



Rippon Lodge 275th Celebration Finale

November 08, 2023

Prince William County

In 1747, construction began on Rippon Lodge, one of the area's oldest homes. For this anniversary celebration, Rippon Lodge Historic Site welcomes you to experience a day full of colonial living history demonstrations and impressions, military enca...

[Read More](#)





Virginia American Revolution 250 Commemoration - VA250

February 16 at 11:56 AM ·

The oldest, extant building in our nation that once educated black students has been moved to its new home at [Colonial Williamsburg](#). Click below to learn more about the [Williamsburg Bray School](#). #VA250



varevolution250



varevolution250 Today is #NationalPlanForVacationDay. Some of Virginia's historical sites and museums developed this road trip to make it easy for you to take a trip to learn the Revolutionary history (and more!) of Virginia. #VA250
@mount_vernon @jmmontpelier @tjmonticello
@monroehighland @colonialwmsburg @jyfmuseums
@historicjamestown

5w

[View insights](#)



Liked by monroehighland and 12 others

JANUARY 31

Add a comment...

Post

VIRGINIA²⁵⁰
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Custom Locality Logo

ALEXANDRIA
VIRGINIA²⁵⁰
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
VIRGINIA²⁵⁰
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

FAIRFAX COUNTY
VIRGINIA²⁵⁰
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

PULASKI COUNTY
VIRGINIA²⁵⁰
AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Tips for Local Committees

1. Convene interested stakeholders – work regionally – include DMO
2. Resolution of support passed by local governing body (grant eligibility)
3. Make a plan of events you'd like to do, anniversaries to mark, and apply for VA250 grants to support them
4. *What's your local story?* Identify stories and sites that have contributed to the legacy and vibrancy of our state and nation
5. Let us help you tell that story!
 - Create a VA250 microsite and customized logo
 - Add Events and Places to Visit to VA250.org and Virginia.org

Tips for Local Committees

6. Request traveling programs as they become available and plan events around them
 - Mobile museum
 - Panel exhibition
 - Library of Virginia *Transcribe* event

7. ****Keep good statistics!****
 - Comprehensive list of events (start a spreadsheet today)
 - How many people attended?
 - From where did they travel? (Zip codes)
 - Collect feedback, quotes
 - *We will request this data for economic impact reporting

8. Always send us your good news for posting, amplifying, supporting!



- Join us at VA250.org
- [#va250](https://twitter.com/va250)
- [@varevolution250](https://www.instagram.com/varevolution250)

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