Jamestown Rediscovery
HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE

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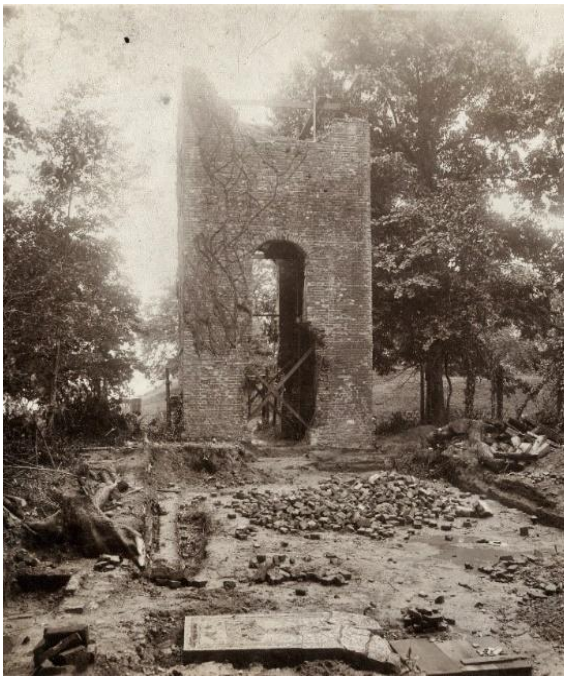
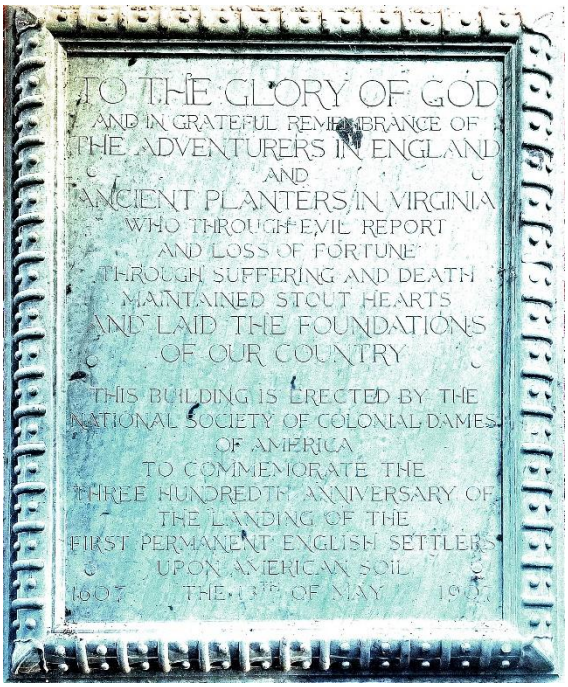
The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America fund Jamestown's Memorial Church

The Dames presented Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation with a $52,000 gift for repairs and renovations to Jamestown's Memorial Church, originally constructed by the NSCDA in 1906 and gifted to the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA), now Preservation Virginia, in 1907.

JAMESTOWN, Va. – October 23, 2018

The only above-ground remains of one of the three, long-since abandoned 17th-century churches that once stood at Jamestown is a brick belltower, pictured below amidst ruins and collapse. In 1893, the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA), now Preservation Virginia, took ownership of the tower site and conducted archaeology on the old church foundations in preparation for Jamestown's 300th anniversary in 1907. As a gift to Preservation Virginia commemorating this milestone, The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America constructed a Memorial Church on the original church site, which guests can still visit today.





Now over a century old, the Memorial Church is in need of significant repairs. In addition, Jamestown Rediscovery archaeologists have been excavating within the church for the past two years, hoping to find further physical evidence of the 17th-century churches, particularly the earliest, built in 1617. It is in the quire of the 1617 church where the first form of representative government in the western hemisphere convened in the summer of 1619. Next July marks the 400th anniversary of this pivotal moment in our nation's history, and Jamestown Rediscovery plans to install new exhibits within the church that will allow visitors to view the precise location where this historic meeting took place.

Continuing their longstanding commitment to preserving and protecting historic sites across the country, The National Society of Colonial Dames of The America is helping Jamestown Rediscovery restore the Memorial Church in time for the 400th anniversary. On October 23, 2018, NSCDA president Anna Duff and a group of fellow Dames visited Historic Jamestowne and presented Jamestown Rediscovery President Jim Horn with $52,000 for this project. This

generous gift will allow Jamestown Rediscovery to make necessary repairs to the building that their ancestors funded over 100 years ago, protecting centuries of history beneath the surface.

"In order to protect our freedom and ensure the perpetuity of our republic, it is our responsibility as descendants of the Founders, to make sure the stories of our origins and the development of our country not only endure, but also still have the power to inspire." -- NSCDA President Anna Duff

NSCDA President Anna Duff presents Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation
with a $52,000 gift to fund repairs to Jamestown's Memorial Church

From left to right: *Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation President James Horn,*
NSCDA President Anna Duff, and Emeritus Director of Archaeology & Research Bill Kelso

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Historic Jamestowne is jointly administered by the National Park Service and Jamestown Rediscovery (on behalf of Preservation Virginia) and preserves the original site of the first permanent English settlement in the New World. Entrance to the site is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Historic Jamestowne Visitor Center is open from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., and the grounds remain open until dusk. General admission is $14.00 per adult (which includes both Historic Jamestowne and Yorktown Battlefield for seven consecutive days). Children 15 & under are free. National Park Passes and Preservation Virginia Memberships are accepted; however a $5 per person fee may apply. For further information, visit www.historicjamestowne.org or call 757-856-1250.