

WORKING WOOD IN THE 18TH CENTURY: FURNITURE OF GEORGE AND MARTHA WASHINGTON

January 22–25 and January 26–29, 2012



Co-sponsored by

George Washington's
MOUNT VERNON
ESTATE, MUSEUM & GARDENS

Fine
Woodworking

Breakfast table. American, possibly mid-Atlantic, 1795-1805. Mabogany, yellow poplar, oak, pine, and inlays. Purchase, 1921, W-136. Side chair: Made by John Aitken. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1797. Mabogany with inlays. Purchase, 1998, W-2820. Aerial view of Mount Vernon Mansion and circle courtyard. Decorative "bull's eye" window in the Mansion's west pediment closet. All images Courtesy of Mount Vernon Ladies' Association

George Washington's Mount Vernon is partnering with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and *Fine Woodworking* to present the 14th annual Working Wood in the 18th Century conference at Williamsburg. Mount Vernon curators and restoration staff will set the stage by exploring Washington's home and the furniture he and Martha acquired to furnish it. Cabinetmakers from Colonial Williamsburg's Hay Shop will reproduce two pieces from the Mount Vernon collection: A bureau table made in 1754 by Williamsburg cabinetmaker Peter Scott for Daniel Parke Custis, Martha Washington's first husband, and brought by Martha to Mount Vernon after her 1759 marriage to Washington; and an elaborate sculptural candle stand, purchased by George Washington in 1759 from Scottish émigré cabinetmaker James Allan, then working in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Guest cabinetmakers Dan Faia of The North Bennet Street School and Jeff Headley and Steve Hamilton of Mack S. Headley and Sons will lead us into the Federal period. Jeff and Steve will reproduce one of the Washingtons' dining chairs made by John Aitken of Philadelphia in 1797, and Dan will construct a delicate, inlaid Pembroke, or breakfast, table. Colonial Williamsburg's joiners will demonstrate sash construction by reproducing the famous bull's-eye window in the pediment of the Mansion.

Along with the conference in Williamsburg, Mount Vernon is offering special-interest Mansion, museum, and behind-the-scenes tours for conference participants on January 26 and 30. In the meantime, more information about the pieces that will be fabricated can be found at the Mount Vernon website: www.mountvernon.org

***Note:** The program is the same number of days as previous years but is scheduled later in January. Session 1 runs Sunday through Wednesday and Session 2 Thursday through Sunday. The Society of American Period Furniture Makers will be holding their annual meeting in conjunction with the second session of the conference, January 26–29.

Colonial Williamsburg
Be part of the story.

SPEAKERS INCLUDE

Ted Boscana, journeyman joiner and carpenter, Colonial Williamsburg

Dan Faia, head of the cabinet and furniture making department,
North Bennet Street School, Boston, Massachusetts

Steve Hamilton, cabinetmaker, Mack S. Headley and Sons, Berryville, Virginia

Jeff Headley, cabinetmaker, Mack S. Headley and Sons, Berryville, Virginia

Mack Headley, master cabinetmaker, Colonial Williamsburg

Kaare Loftheim, journeyman cabinetmaker, Colonial Williamsburg

Bill Pavlak, apprentice cabinetmaker, Colonial Williamsburg

Dennis J. Pogue, vice president, preservation, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Museum & Gardens

David Salisbury, journeyman cabinetmaker and joiner, Colonial Williamsburg

Susan P. Schoelwer, curator, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Museum & Gardens

Laura B. Simo, associate curator, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Museum & Gardens

Brian Weldy, apprentice cabinetmaker, Colonial Williamsburg

Ed Wright, journeyman musical instrument maker, Colonial Williamsburg

As always, the conference will be informal. Participants' comments and questions are welcomed. During morning and afternoon breaks, speakers display their work, tools, and materials; demonstrate techniques; and chat with participants. To include more participants while keeping the conferences small enough for everyone to be involved, two identical programs are offered.

PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 & THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

2–7:30 p.m. Program registration. Introductory Gallery at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum, 326 West Francis Street, Williamsburg, Virginia.

5 p.m. Program introduction. **Jay Gaynor**, director, Historic Trades, Colonial Williamsburg. Hennage Auditorium, DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum.

"Building Mount Vernon." **Dennis J. Pogue**, vice president, preservation, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Museum & Gardens, Mount Vernon, Virginia.

"George Washington's Furniture." **Susan P. Schoelwer**, curator, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Museum & Gardens, Mount Vernon, Virginia.

6:30 p.m. Opening Reception. Central Court, DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum.

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, & FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

- 8:30 a.m. DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum opens for conference registrants.
- 8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast. Central Court, DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum.
- 9 a.m. *"The Peter Scott Bureau Table."* **Kaare Loftheim**, journeyman cabinetmaker, Colonial Williamsburg, and staff of the Hay Cabinetmaking Shop.
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee break. Central Court. Museum Gift Shop is open.
- 11 a.m. *"The Mount Vernon Pembroke Table."* **Dan Faia**, head of the cabinet and furniture making department, North Bennet Street School, Boston, Massachusetts.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch on your own.
- 2 p.m. *"The John Aitken Side Chairs."* **Jeff Headley** and **Steve Hamilton**, cabinetmakers. Mack S. Headley and Sons, Berryville, Virginia.
- "The Mount Vernon Bull's-Eye Window."* **Ted Boscana**, journeyman joiner and carpenter, Colonial Williamsburg.
- 4:45 p.m. Afternoon refreshments. Central Court.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, & SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

- 8:30 a.m. DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum opens for conference registrants.
- 8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast. Central Court, DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum.
- 9 a.m. *Scott Bureau Table* program continues.
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee break. Central Court. Museum Gift Shop is open.
- 11 a.m. *Pembroke Table* program continues.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch on your own.
- 2 p.m. *"The James Allan Candle Stands."* **Mack Headley**, master cabinetmaker, Colonial Williamsburg.
- Pembroke Table* program concludes.
- 4:30 p.m. Afternoon refreshments. Central Court.
- 6:30 p.m. Reception. Williamsburg Lodge Conference Center.
- 7 p.m. Group banquet. After-dinner comments by a representative of *Fine Woodworking* and *"Teaching Traditional Skills since 1885: North Bennet Street School."* **Dan Faia**.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, & SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

- 8:30 a.m. DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum opens for conference registrants.
- 8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast. Central Court, DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum.
- 9 a.m. *"Making Harpsichord Jacks: Some Aspects of 18th-century 'Mass Production.'"* **Ed Wright**, journeyman musical instrument maker, Colonial Williamsburg.
- "Over-the-Rail Chair Seat Upholstery."* **David Salisbury**, journeyman cabinetmaker and joiner, Colonial Williamsburg.
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee break. Central Court. Museum Gift Shop is open.

- 11 a.m. *Aitken Side Chair* program continues.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch on your own.
- 2 p.m. *Aitken Side Chair* program concludes.
- 2:30 p.m. Conference wrap-up.

OPTIONAL PROGRAM AT GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MOUNT VERNON ESTATE, MUSEUM & GARDENS

JANUARY 26 AND 30, 2012

- 9 a.m. Guest arrival. (Park in the public lots and gather in the Orientation Center for an escort to the administration building.)
- 9 a.m.–9:30 a.m. Coffee Reception.
Welcome by **James Rees**, President and CEO.
Ann Pamela Cunningham Building.
- 9:30–10:30 a.m. Tour Mansion.
Basement, First, Second, and Third Floor.
- 10:30–11:30 a.m. Tour Museum.
Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center.
- 11:30–12:30 p.m. Luncheon.
Mount Vernon Inn Restaurant.
- 12:30–3 p.m. Free Time—Estate Exploration.
- 1–2 p.m. Optional Tour—Behind the Scenes
with Restoration.

Optional Tour—Behind the Scenes with Collections.

Optional Tour—Distillery and Gristmill (weather permitting.)
- 3 p.m. Guest departure.

COMPANION PROGRAMS

“Secrets of the Chocolate Maker: A Very, Very Brief History of Chocolate in Colonial America.” **James Gay**, historic foodways, Colonial Williamsburg, Williamsburg Lodge Conference Center, 10:30 a.m.–noon. (75-minute lecture/demonstration, \$20)

“Metal Foil Ornaments.” This workshop will provide all necessary supplies and instructions to create one ornament made from sheet aluminum. The design is inspired by objects in the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum collection. Participants will learn about the folk art used as inspiration and how to create patterns from art pieces that can be used for future aluminum projects. You will go home with a completed ornament as well as the special scissors and stylus used in the workshop. **Jan Gilliam**, manager of exhibition planning and curator of toys, and **Christina Westenberger**, assistant manager, Museum Education, Colonial Williamsburg, DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum, 2–3:30 p.m. (90-minute class, \$20)

“Spring Floral Arrangements: The Clever Kind.” George Washington was known to refer to plants that bloomed as the “clever kind.” Colonial Williamsburg senior gardener **Peggy Lankford** will demonstrate how to make clever arrangements by combining spring flowers with plants from your own garden as she shares tips for making floral arrangements fit for a president. Williamsburg Lodge Conference Center, 9–10 a.m. (60-minute demonstration, \$20)

LODGING, DINING, AND SPA

The following special rates are available at the Colonial Williamsburg Hotels for conference registrants. (*Hotel rates are for single or double occupancy, per night. Rates do not include applicable taxes.*)

LODGING OPPORTUNITIES

WILLIAMSBURG LODGE

Colonial Williamsburg's restored and expanded hotel is known for its southern charm and hospitality.

- Superior \$101 • Deluxe \$138

WILLIAMSBURG INN®

Regarded among the world's great hotels, the Williamsburg Inn is the crown jewel of the Colonial Williamsburg Hotels.

- Main building guest rooms \$192

COLONIAL HOUSES—HISTORIC LODGING

This unique lodging experience allows guests to enjoy accommodations in the Historic Area within one of 27 restored or reconstructed 18th-century buildings, complete with today's modern conveniences.

- Superior \$159 • Deluxe \$179

DINING

Distinctive dining options are offered throughout Colonial Williamsburg's restaurants and historic dining taverns. Dining reservations can be made by calling 1-800-261-9530, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. (ET).

SPA SERVICES

The Spa of Colonial Williamsburg provides a full menu of services. A team of experts has collaborated to create a spa that exudes southern charm, harmonizes with its historical surroundings, reflects its colonial heritage, and honors traditions of wellness and relaxation throughout American culture. Experience the wonders of our spa for yourself by calling 1-800-688-6479.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

FOUR EASY WAYS TO REGISTER AND MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS

ONLINE history.org/conted **PHONE** 1-800-603-0948 **FAX** (757) 565-8921

MAIL Office of Conferences, Forums, and Workshops

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Post Office Box 1776, Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-1776

PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY

No tripods/camera mounts, long-term video photography, or flash photography permitted. All photography, still or video, is permitted only for private use.

REGISTRATION

Preregistration and payment in full are required. Payment can be made by check or charged to American Express, Discover, Visa, or MasterCard. Registration includes the opening reception, three continental breakfasts, five breaks, group reception and banquet, presentations proposed in this program, and a Colonial Williamsburg admission pass valid for the duration of the conference.

CANCELLATION POLICY

If notice of cancellation is received in writing before January 16, 2012, Colonial Williamsburg will refund your registration fees, less a \$50.00 administrative fee. Refunds will not be made after January 16. Travel and/or trip interruption insurance is recommended. Check with your travel agent for details.

HOW TO REACH WILLIAMSBURG

Williamsburg is easily accessible by plane, train, and car. Located in eastern Virginia, Williamsburg is about 150 miles south of Washington, D.C., and midway between Richmond and Norfolk. The Williamsburg area can be reached via many major airlines, with more than 200 flights arriving daily, to three airports just 25 to 45 minutes away: Newport News-Williamsburg (PHF), Richmond (RIC), and Norfolk (ORF). Each airport has rental car and limousine services. Amtrak also serves Williamsburg with trains daily to and from the northeast corridor.

REGISTRATION FORM

2012 WORKING WOOD

One person per form; duplicate as necessary
Please indicate session *January 22–25* *January 26–29*

Mr./Dr./Mrs./Ms./Miss (Print full name) _____

Address _____

City, state, zip/postal code _____

Daytime phone _____

Email address _____

I would like my name badge to read: Name _____

City, state _____

Companion badge name _____

Companion city, state _____

Companion Options

Companion banquet ticket \$70 _____

Companion opening reception AND lecture ticket (*quantity limited*) \$30 _____

Classes session one, Tuesday, January 24

Secrets of Chocolate \$20 (10:30 a.m.–noon) _____

Metal Foil Ornaments \$20 (2–3:30 p.m.) _____

Floral Arranging \$20 (9–10 a.m.) _____

Classes session two, Friday, January 27

Secrets of Chocolate \$20 (10:30 a.m.–noon) _____

Metal Foil Ornaments \$20 (2–3:30 p.m.) _____

Floral Arranging \$20 (9–10 a.m.) _____

Optional program at George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, Museum & Gardens

\$75 per person

January 26 January 30

Who will attend _____

Lunch selection: Colonial Turkey Pye Vegetarian Lasagna

REGISTRATION FEE AND PAYMENT

Registration Fee (\$325) _____

Optional program fee(s) _____

Total of enclosed check (Payable to "The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation") _____

Total credit card charge _____

Check one: Discover MasterCard Visa American Express

Credit card number _____

Expiration Date _____

Cardholder name (please print) _____

Cardholder signature _____

If this information is a duplicate mailing, please pass it along to a friend.