

Jamestown Rediscovery

HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Jamestown Rediscovery archaeologist Ren Willis shares recent finds from excavations near the Archaearium Museum

Spring Programs at Jamestown: Kicking off the excavation season and marking the anniversary of the beginning of Jamestown

JAMESTOWN, VA (March 26, 2025) –

On April 4, 1993, Dr. Bill Kelso pushed a shovel into the soil near the Church Tower on Jamestown Island and officially began the Jamestown Rediscovery Project. Almost 400 years earlier, in the spring of 1607, the men of the Virginia Company first spotted land after their four-month journey across the ocean and stepped onto a swampy peninsula “in Paspaha’s [Paspehegh] country.” (George Percy) Join Jamestown Rediscovery this spring to commemorate both of these remarkable moments in history.

Archaeology Opening Day: Saturday, April 12

Just over 30 years ago, archaeology proved the site of the 1607 James Fort was on dry land, not lost to erosion as myth portrayed since after the Civil War. Join Jamestown Rediscovery archaeologists to kick off the 2025 archaeology season at Jamestown! This year, archaeologists will tackle several sites that are at risk of damage due to increasing flooding. Learn how you can

help save artifacts and features before they're lost. See archaeology in action just outside the Archaearium Archaeology Museum, go on a walking tour to learn about recent finds, and get hands-on with real artifacts in the Ed Shed.

Archaeology in at-risk areas is supported by the Jamestowne Society.

Find more details at <https://historicjamestowne.org/visit/calendar/archaeology-opening-day-2025/>.

Jamestown Day: Saturday, May 17

After sailing 60 miles up the James River, on May 14th, 1607, the Virginia Company landed at a swampy peninsula that would give them good views of any ship that may come upriver and decided to establish their settlement on a swampy, unoccupied peninsula "in Pasiha's country" (George Percy). Join us to commemorate this pivotal moment that set in motion the events that would build the foundation of America. Jamestown Day programming includes walking tours with historians and archaeologists, living history that takes visitors back to the 17th century, and archaeology in action near the site of Jamestown's last Statehouse. Plus, visitors of all ages can explore ground-penetrating radar and touch real artifacts in the Ed Shed.

Find more details at <https://historicjamestowne.org/visit/calendar/jamestown-day-2025/>.

Spring programs at Historic Jamestowne are offered by Jamestown Rediscovery, which co-manages the site alongside the National Park Service (Colonial National Historical Park). Jamestown Rediscovery programs are included with admission to the Jamestown Rediscovery portions of the site. For more information about ticketing and how to plan your visit, please go to historicjamestowne.org/tickets.

About Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation

The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation preserves and shares the original site of James Fort and Jamestown, established in 1607. The Foundation is dedicated to uncovering, preserving, and sharing Jamestown's diverse history, and highlighting its major contribution to the foundations of modern American society. Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation is a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit and jointly administers Historic Jamestowne alongside the National Park Service. Admission includes the James Fort site, New Town, and the Voorhees Archaearium Archaeological Museum, as well as walking tours, living history, and public programs. For more information about visiting Jamestown, please visit www.historicjamestowne.org or call (757) 856-1250.