



**YORKTOWN PRESERVATION SOCIETY**  
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Website: [www.ypsva.org](http://www.ypsva.org)

**September, 2015**

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#### **State Library Conservation and Reformatting Grant**

A major goal of the Yorktown Preservation Society has been the restoration of York County records which date from 1633, making them some of the oldest in the state. Beginning in 1921, the Society has been funding the restoration of York County records from 1645 to 1908.

On the state level, the Library of Virginia created the Virginia Circuit Courts Records Preservation Program for the same purpose. Some of the nation's oldest and most vital legal records are housed in Virginia's 120 circuit court clerks' offices. However, these records are under constant threat from natural and man-made disasters, format and technology obsolescence, and require constant monitoring and care to ensure their preservation for future generations. This sustained effort has been achieved through continued cooperation between state and local governments. This successful partnership has been responsible for numerous beneficial projects over the years, including the scanning of over 7 million Virginia chancery documents for 57 localities to date.

The Circuit Court Records Preservation Program (CCRP) is a part of the Library of Virginia's Local Records Services Branch. Funded through a \$1.50 of the clerk's recordation fee, the CCRP provides resources to help preserve and make accessible permanent circuit court records. The program awards grants to the commonwealth's circuit court clerks to help them address the needs of the records housed in their localities.

Last spring, York County Clerk of Court, Kristen Nelson, applied to the Circuit Court Records Preservation Program for a conservation and reformatting grant. Kristen is now very pleased to announce that the grant was approved in the amount of \$23,374.00. The following records will not only go through the conservation process, but will also be reformatted into a digital version for easier access.

- Deed Book 24, containing records from 1897-1900
- Marriage Register 1, containing records from 1854-1928
- Will Book 15, containing records from 1889-1897
- Wills and Inventories 19, containing records from 1740-1746
- Wills and Inventories 22, containing records from 1771-1783

YPS congratulates Kristen, for her efforts to ensure that records of our local history will be available to all future generations and to researchers everywhere.

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#### **Yorktown Day Celebration**

Representing YPS in the Yorktown Day Celebration at the Patriotic Exercises at the Monument will be Lois Winter as the Honorary Flag Bearer and Nancy Shroud as the Platform Representative.

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#### **Secretary Nelson Homesite Marker**

The Secretary Nelson Homesite on Zweibrucken Road was transferred from Preservation Virginia to the Yorktown Preservation Society last year. Your Board has decided to add a small plaque to the existing marker. The text will be "Deeded to the Yorktown Preservation Society, 2014".

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#### **Cannon Maintenance**

The cannon on the Riverwalk is showing some signs of deterioration. At some point in the near future, the Mariner's Museum will swap out the existing barrel for a similar one, and York County staff will do required maintenance on the carriage.

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#### **Next YPS Business Meeting**

The next meeting of the YPS is October 25th at 2:00 pm at Grace Church Parish Hall. The Program will be announced at a later date.

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#### **YPS Website**

Please remember the YPS Website is available for information about activities sponsored by YPS both future and past. The address is [www.ypsva.org](http://www.ypsva.org). When you are seeking information about the organization regarding meetings, membership dues, tours, photos of activities, organization contacts, etc. remember to log on to the YPS website. You will find a wealth of information there about YPS and Yorktown.

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#### **Reminder**

Your YPS Membership dues for the 2015-16 year were due September 1st. If you have not submitted your payment, please do so in order to prevent your membership from lapsing. The dues remain at \$30.00 per year.

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### YPS Membership Meeting

The Society met on August 23, 2015 at Grace Church Parish Hall. The abridged minutes of the meeting follow.

Joy Phillips proposed a bus tour in October of Smith's Fort Plantation, Bacon's Castle and Cape Henry Lighthouse. At least 50 people would be needed at a cost of approximately \$50. As an alternate, she proposed a tour of the new American Revolution Museum with lunch at the Riverwalk Restaurant. A show of hands indicated interest in both. The membership will be kept informed if and when these trip plans develop.

Bonnie Karwac reported that the Kiskiack Archeology documentation will be a paperback book of approximately 100 pages. There is a tentative contract with production hopefully by Yorktown Day this year. YPS provided seed money for this documentation.

Jerry Thompson showed the booklet *Yorktown Branch, APVA, 1921-1986*. There is a desire to continue the history of the Yorktown Branch from 1986 -2013, when APVA disbanded the branches. Jerry and Frank Edwards have been working on this and request materials from the membership. Jerry reminded the membership that all files of the Yorktown Branch are at the Swem Library as well as the YPS files. The possibility of scanning the records was suggested.

Lois Winter presented for viewing the scrapbook she made of the Hermione visit. George Bennett noted that he and Linda are members of the American Friends of Lafayette and as such they made plans for those visiting here.

Jerry Thompson reminded the membership of our website: [www.ypsva.org](http://www.ypsva.org).

Bonnie Karwac introduced the speaker J. Michael Cobb, archeologist and founding curator of the Hampton History Museum. He gave an informative and interesting talk on the history and current status of Fort Wool, located in Hampton Roads.

Thanks to those members who provided refreshments, including Gladys Victor, Joy Phillips, Kristen Nelson, Nancy Kane, Frank Edwards and Nancy Shrout and to Susan Powell who was in charge of the liquid refreshments.

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### Email Addresses

As a monetary concern, we wish to communicate with members by email as much as possible. If you are not receiving emails or snail mail, please let us know at either [yps2013@aol.com](mailto:yps2013@aol.com) or Joy Phillips at (757) 898-1243. Thanks for your help on this issue.

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### Year-End Financials

Yorktown Preservation Society  
Revenue and Disbursements  
July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

	Jul '14 - Jun '15
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Member Dues	1,770.00
Donations	2,180.00
Fund Raising	1,773.40
Grants	100.00
Donations for Books	4.00
Total Income	5,827.40
Expense	
Donations Given	310.00
Dues & Memberships	575.00
Franchise Fee	25.00
Gifts	75.00
Insurance	250.00
Meetings	55.02
Miscellaneous	351.00
Postage	43.80
Printing	31.80
Safety Deposit Box Rental	55.00
Web and Domain Expense	14.99
Total Expense	1,786.61
Net Ordinary Income	4,040.79
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income	0.48
Total Other Income	0.48
Net Other Income	0.48
Net Income	4,041.27
Cash Balance on Hand 31-Jul-15	
Beginning Cash Balance 7/1/2014	3010.1
Net Income	4,041.27
Ending Cash Balance 6/30/15	7051.37