To mark the publication of "The Chesapeake House: Architectural Investigation" by Colonial Williamsburg by the University of North Carolina Press, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation will offer a three-day conference focusing on the methods used by architectural historians at Colonial Williamsburg to investigate buildings as well as review new discoveries in the field. "The Chesapeake House" is a major scholarly landmark that will set the standard for the analysis and history of early Virginia and Maryland architecture for the coming decades. The seventeen essays are based on the collective scholarship of nine authors who have been involved in research in this field for the past three decades. Participants in the conference will receive a copy of the book as part of their registration.

Through a series of lectures, conversations, and specialized tours of Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area, The Chesapeake House conference provides an insider's view of how Colonial Williamsburg's experts examine historic buildings. This program will appeal to teachers, students, and other professionals in the field as well as friends of Colonial Williamsburg and members of the general public with interests in old houses, American history, restoration, and historic preservation. Presentations will explore the practice of architectural fieldwork, the nature of regionalism in building design, and the development of a distinctive framing system in the colonial period. Practitioners will discuss the latest techniques of dendrochronology and paint analysis.

There will be a special audience participation session entitled “How old is your house?” Often, it is one of the first questions homeowners ask and it is always essential for architectural historians to determine. Yet, such a basic query is often hard to answer. Assessing the age and alterations made to buildings is challenging since the process involves piecing together disparate kinds of evidence found in many different parts of a house, from the attic to the cellar. How was the frame constructed? What kind of bonding pattern does the chimney have? What sort of hinges are on the doors? Some details provide solid diagnostic clues while others are less helpful. However, when combined, they can provide plausible dates to within a few years or decades.

Curious about the age of your old house or one you know? Here is your chance to start the process of figuring it out. “Making Sense of the Evidence” will provide an interactive opportunity to review and analyze the material you submit with other participants. This session will demonstrate how the experts read the evidence from the field to make a reasonable estimate of the age of a house based on its form, construction, and style of various features.

If you are interested, please send us images of your building. These should include the following:

1. One or two overall views of the building.
2. Views of exterior brickwork from the foundations and/or chimney.
3. Framing details: These can be views from the cellar looking at the joists or of the roof framing. These should be sufficiently clear to show construction marks on the timbers.
4. Nails used in the framing of the building. Good places to photograph these are in the gable end studs or other places where they secure original material such as flooring, trim, hinges, etc.
5. Views of the staircase, doors, and mantels: overall and details.
6. Detailed images of moldings from door, window, and mantel architraves, wainscot, etc.

If you would like a chance to stump the experts, please submit digital jpg images of your old house to Carl Lounsbury clounsbury@cwf.org or Jeff Klee jklee@cwf.org by Monday, May 6, 2013.
PROGRAM

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2013

Noon-5:30 p.m.  Conference registration. The Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg, Hennage Auditorium Foyer, 326 West Francis Street, Williamsburg, Virginia.


4:30 p.m.  “Rendering The Chesapeake House.” Jeffrey Klee, architectural historian, Colonial Williamsburg.

Dinner on your own.

MONDAY, MAY 20

8:30 a.m.  The Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg open for conference participants. 326 West Francis Street, Williamsburg, Virginia.


9:45 a.m.  Coffee break.

10:15 a.m.  “What makes Chesapeake Architecture Regional?” Carl Lounsbury, senior architectural historian, Colonial Williamsburg.


Lunch on your own.

1:15-4:00 p.m.  Revolutionary City programming. Looking at Architectural Details. Participants will be divided into four groups and will rotate around in order to participate in all four sessions. This activity will require walking.

Timber Framing. Willie Graham, Booker Tenement.


Hardware. Edward Chappell, Ken Schwarz, Armoury.


4:30 p.m.  “Making Sense of the Evidence, or Stump the Chumps.” Cary Carson, Edward Chappell, Willie Graham, Jeffrey Klee, Carl Lounsbury, and members of the audience. Review of images of buildings and details submitted by members of the audience. Hennage Auditorium.

6:30 p.m.  Reception at the home of Margaret Pritchard.

Dinner on your own.

TUESDAY, MAY 21

8:30 a.m.  The Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg open for conference participants. 326 West Francis Street, Williamsburg, Virginia.

9 a.m.  Presiding, Jeffrey Klee. “How Dendrochronology has Changed Architectural Research.” Michael Worthington, dendrochronologist, Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory, Baltimore, Maryland. Hennage Auditorium.
9:45 a.m.  “Paint Analysis in Architectural Investigations.” Susan Buck, conservator and paint analyst, Williamsburg, Virginia.

10:15 a.m.  Coffee break.


11:30 a.m.  “Furnished Lives.” Cary Carson, vice president of research (retired), Colonial Williamsburg.

Noon  Conference concludes.
**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 Woodlands Hotel & Suites**  
Located adjacent to the Colonial Williamsburg Visitor Center, this moderately priced hotel includes a daily continental breakfast and an array of recreational amenities. A fitness room is available to all guests of the Williamsburg Woodlands.  
- **Superior** $109  
- **Deluxe/Suite** $139

**Williamsburg Lodge**  
Colonial Williamsburg’s restored and expanded hotel is known for its southern charm and hospitality.  
- **Superior** $166  
- **Deluxe** $186

**DINING**

Distinctive dining options are offered throughout Colonial Williamsburg’s restaurants and historic dining taverns. Dining and lodging 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. The Spa Fitness Center and classes are open to all guests of official Colonial Williamsburg Hotels. 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

**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 two coffee breaks, one reception, presentations proposed in this brochure, a Colonial Williamsburg admission ticket valid through May 24, 2013, and a copy of *The Chesapeake House*. You may register at a lower rate that does NOT include a copy of the book. The presentation schedule is subject to change without notice.

**CANCELLATION POLICY**

If notice of cancellation is received in writing before May 13, 2013, Colonial Williamsburg will refund your registration fees, less a $25 administrative fee. Cancellation notices should be emailed to dchapman@cwf.org or adodson@cwf.org. Refunds will not be made after May 13, 2013. 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 (240 km) 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

THE CHESAPEAKE HOUSE

One person per form; duplicate as necessary

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 _____________________________________________________________________________________________________________

REGISTRATION FEE AND PAYMENT

Full conference registration $195 _________________________________________________________________________________________

Full conference registration without a copy of the book $160 _____________________________________________________________________

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 ____________________________________________________________________________________________________