

# *Jamestown Rediscovery*

HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE

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## **Jamestown dedicates historic Church Tower**

JAMESTOWN, Va. (October 13, 2023) –

Last week, Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation (JRF) and Preservation Virginia welcomed directors, supporters, distinguished guests from local government, and tribal leadership to mark the next phase of the restoration of the historic Church Tower. The only structure from Jamestown's era as Virginia's colonial capital that still stands, the Church Tower is one of the most important and iconic landmarks in our nation's history. Once complete, the Church Tower will be protected by a steel and glass roof, large glass transom window, and door providing a modern solution to a 250 year-old problem of keeping the weather out. In addition, a glass portal in the floor will showcase the recently-discovered foundations of the 1617-18 church, the first church built on the site.



Preservation Virginia CEO Elizabeth Kostelny, JRF Director of Collections & Conservation Michael Lavin, and JRF President Dr. Jim Horn were joined by Ed Pease and David Stemann of Stemann Pease Architecture and L.J. Swain of Daniel & Company to kick off the next phase of the Church Tower construction project. Following the ribbon-cutting, Ms. Kostelny and Dr. Horn

shared the significance of the tower and our vision for its next 100 years. Construction will continue over the next several months and we look forward to opening the tower to visitors in early spring 2024.

The Church Tower Project has been generously supported by the Jamestowne Society along with major funding from Ms. L. Kay Wilkinson, the Randolph D. Rouse Foundation, the Richard S. Reynolds Foundation, the Roller Bottimore Foundation, and the Robert G. Cabell III & Maude Morgan Cabell Foundation.

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#### *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. JRF 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](http://www.historicjamestowne.org) or call (757) 856-1250.*