

Jamestown Rediscovery

HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE

Contact: Kelly Beckley
757-856-1259
kbeckley@preservationvirginia.org

Margaret Gunn and Ken Levine Offer Their Genealogical Expertise to Jamestown Rediscovery's Online Research Database



JAMESTOWN, Va. (October 25, 2021)- The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation is deeply grateful to local volunteer genealogists Margaret Gunn and Ken Levine for their work in updating Jamestown's online research database. The database provides researchers with downloadable genealogy records summarizing the documented information about Jamestown's seventeenth-century residents. Longtime Jamestown supporters and friends, Margaret and Ken spent many months during the pandemic at home researching and updating the records.

Ken and Margaret met while both pursued careers in Richmond. Later they were married in the Wren Chapel of the College of William and Mary, Margaret's alma mater. Margaret is a Virginia native who descends from numerous Jamestown settlers, as well as Pocahontas. Her deep interest in genealogy and history began when she was a young girl. Ken is from New York. While he does not trace his roots to Virginia, he has enjoyed contributing to Margaret's genealogical research.

“It is our hope that when the updated online Jamestown biographies are returned to the website that thousands of others will learn about the fascinating stories of those who lived at Jamestown in the earliest days of our nation. It has been a pleasure working on this important project,” said Ken.

Since retiring, Margaret has also volunteered in Colonial Williamsburg’s Rockefeller Library Special Collections Department, transcribing and logging documents from the 18th century into their databases. As a William and Mary student, she was an English major and worked in several academic departments in addition to her position as Editor-in-Chief of the William and Mary yearbook. Every afternoon she worked for the Williamsburg Postmaster. Later she earned a graduate degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in Information Systems as well as graduate credits in English and Mass Communications. Her background prepared her well for her career as a computer programmer analyst and later volunteer work.

“Jamestown’s story is important—and we must ensure that future generations understand our nation’s rich history and those who persevered at the time of America’s beginning,” shared Margaret.

Jamestown’s updated online biographies will be reposted to our website and made available to the public on October 21st. The records, which are \$4.95 each, can be accessed by visiting <https://historicjamestowne.org/history/genealogy-records/>.

Historic Jamestowne (HJ) preserves the original site of the first permanent English settlement in America and is jointly administered by Jamestown Rediscovery and the National Park Service. Entrance tickets are available at the HJ Visitor Center from 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., and the grounds remain open until dusk. General admission is \$25.00 per adult (which includes both Historic Jamestowne and Yorktown Battlefield for seven consecutive days). Children 15 & under are free. National Park Passes and Preservation Virginia Memberships are accepted; however a \$10 per person fee may apply. Entrance tickets and passes include admission to the archaeological site, the Memorial Church, the Voorhees Archaearium Archaeological Museum, as well as scheduled daily walking tours and public programs. For opening hours of the Dale House Café and information about special events, please visit www.historicjamestowne.org or call (757) 856-1250.