



French & Indian War Foundation

"Preserving and Interpreting the Colonial History of Virginia's Frontier"

PO Box 751, Winchester, Virginia 22604

www.FIWF.org

Volume 18, Issue 4, Fall 2023

21st Annual Meeting Notice

By David Grosso

Join us on Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 2 pm at the Godfrey Miller Center in Winchester, VA, to learn about the current status of the Foundation with a re-cap of our 2023 activities, an announcement of awards and election of board members. This is an excellent opportunity for members to meet their board of directors and ask questions about the planned future of the organization.

Following the business meeting we will learn about recent archaeological investigations carried out by the National Park Service at Jumonville Glen near Farmington, PA. The findings, which were first made public in May of this year, will be presented by Mr. Brian Reedy, Chief of Interpretation and Site Manager of Fort Necessity National Battlefield.

We are excited to be able to offer you this unique opportunity to learn first-hand about the latest information related to one of the most important historical sites of the French & Indian War era and how these new discoveries advance our understanding of the pivotal May 1754 event that occurred at that site.

Mr. Reedy, a native of Pennsylvania, was raised by a family that nurtured his early interest in history. The family traveled to Philadelphia, Williamsburg and other historic places during the American Bicentennial.

Brian attended California University of Pennsylvania, earning a Bachelor of Arts in History. While in college, he volunteered at Fort Necessity National Battlefield launching his career with the National Park Service.

Over the past thirty-nine years Brian has worked at sites in Philadelphia, Valley Forge and Montana. He returned to western Pennsylvania to work at Friendship Hill National Historic Site and currently serves as Chief of Interpretation and Site Manager for both Friendship Hill and Fort Necessity.

The Godfrey Miller Home – Woltz Pavilion is located at 28 South Loudoun Street, Winchester, VA.

Doors will open at 1:30 pm with light refreshments served.



Brian S. Reedy, Chief of Interpretation and Site Manager of Fort Necessity Nat'l Battlefield and Friendship Hill Nat'l Historic Site

David Morgan, son of Morgan Morgan

By Eric Robinson



On a hot, humid early September day, Eric and Marc Robinson, members of the French and Indian War Foundation, Mercer's Company of the Virginia Regiment, and members of the Col James Wood II Chapter of the VASSAR, were honored to represent those organizations at a celebration held at the Morgan Morgan Cabin near Bunker Hill, WV. Eric and Marc had the opportunity to share with the public their knowledge of the Morgan Family and life on the colonial frontier during the French and Indian War.

Morgan Morgan is well known in history for many reasons such as serving as a Justice of the Peace in Orange County, but is especially known for being one of the first settlers of modern day West Virginia. Morgan had several children who also became well known in

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The Summer has been a busy one for the Foundation and Mercer's Company. We again held Fort Loudoun Day in May and in July hosted the re-enactment of the 1758 election of George Washington to the Virginia House of Burgesses. Meanwhile, Mercer's Company carried the banner to a dozen events in Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland. Both the Foundation and Mercer's Company will be active in the Fall as well.

By the time you read this, we hope to have completed a GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar) survey on the Western side of the Loudoun Street property in the hopes of identifying features of the fort or outlying evidence of activities related to the fort or its construction. The study will be conducted by registered archaeologists from Northern Virginia and funded with a generous grant from the Boxley-Fox Endowment Fund of Winchester and matching funds from the FIWF. We will be reporting the findings of the study in a later issue of the newsletter.

As reported in an earlier newsletter, a committee is meeting monthly to develop a comprehensive site plan for the Loudoun-street property. We would welcome suggestions from our membership for the property and the house for consideration for the plan. The committee is in a fact-finding mode at present but believes it is important to begin collecting ideas for future consideration. Please feel free to share your ideas and/or suggestions with board members or in writing by email or snail mail. We would also welcome volunteers to serve on the committee to help chart the course for the future of the Foundation.

A bit of unhappy news to report. We received notice recently that a grant application for federal funds from the American Battlefield Protection Program to develop a *Well Restoration Design Plan* was not approved for funding. The grant was meant to secure funds to plan for the eventual excavation, preservation, conservation and restoration of the fort well. The application took several months to prepare which, though not ultimately successful, served as an important learning experience that will be helpful in the pursuit of future grant opportunities for the site. We are extremely grateful for the many hours of effort and initiative taken by Donna Leight to develop and submit this application. We also thank members who supported Donna in this project and contributed to its completion.

For our membership, we want to assure you that, as the above-mentioned grant applications illustrate, the current board actively pursues any opportunity within the limits of our resources to further the mission of the Foundation. If you, the reader, have any suggestions for contributing to this purpose or would like to contribute directly please let us know.

We hope to see many of you at our Annual Meeting November 12, which will feature a unique opportunity for our membership to hear from a staff member of the National Park Service describe the results from a recent archaeological investigation at Jumonville Glen, a section of the Fort Necessity National Battlefield.

We look forward to your continuing support in 2024 and hope we will be able to meet and continue to celebrate the early history of this country.

Morgan Morgan *continued from page 1*

Virginia and West Virginia. For example, one of his sons, Zackquill, is the founder of Morgantown, West Virginia.

His third child, David Morgan, was also quite famous in his own right. Known as "The Great Indian Fighter" was a notable, mountaineer, pioneer, and frontiersman. However, for the purposes of this article will focus on his French and Indian War Service.

Born on May 12 1721 in Delaware, he immigrated into the Shenandoah Valley with the rest of his family sometime in the early 1730s. At the beginning of the French and Indian War in the 1750s, David would have been in his early 30s and had lived on the frontier most of his adult life and would have been very knowledgeable about the surrounding countryside.

David became a noted surveyor throughout his life. Early in life he was appointed to help Steven Holstein to do surveys in southwestern Virginia. While the original survey for the Fairfax Line was originally done by Thomas Jefferson's father, Peter, and Thomas Lewis, in 1746, the decision was made to run the survey again in 1748 and George Washington and David Morgan were appointed as commissioners of that survey. It was during that survey the first "Fairfax Stone" was placed.

Speaking of our good friend George Washington it will be noted that David voted for George in the 1758 election for burgess for Frederick County.

Family tradition states that he participated in several activities during the French and Indian War. Tradition states that he



Membership

YES, I wish to become a member of the French and Indian War Foundation and play an important role in supporting the educational goals and preservation of the sites associated with this conflict on the American frontier.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Annual Dues

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Student | \$ 15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual / Family | \$ 30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Patron | \$ 100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sustaining | \$ 250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Benefactor | \$ 500 |

100 Soldiers—Lifetime Memberships

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Soldier | \$ 1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Captain | \$ 5,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Colonel | \$ 10,000 |

The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization

Mission

"The French and Indian War Foundation preserves and interprets the colonial history of the Virginia frontier."

Goals

- Raise public awareness about the war and its consequences through public lectures and tours, as well as publication in the media.
- Collect and conserve primary documents relating to the war.
- Identify, document, preserve and interpret French and Indian War era landmarks in the backcountry of the mid-Atlantic colonies.
- Cooperate with privately and publicly owned French and Indian War fort sites in research, promotion and preservation activities.

We encourage high school and college History students to participate with all activities.

- I will volunteer my services
- I would like to make a Donation _____

Please forward this form to:

The French and Indian War Foundation
P.O. Box 751
Winchester, VA 22604

www.FIWF.org

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Call for Committee Members!

If you have ideas, time or resources we need your help. If you could serve on any of the above committees, please email fiwf419@gmail.com

The Board of Directors currently meets at 3:30 p.m. on the 1st Thursday of the month. Meetings are hybrid conducted both in person and via Zoom.



David Morgan Monument, Rivesville, WV
 courtesy of Becky Replegle

Morgan Morgan continued from page 2

participated in the Fort Necessity campaign. He is said to have received his large scar on his left cheek as a result of a saber wound during the Battle of Monongahela. In May of 1757, David and a party Militiamen trailed about 20 Native Americans and two Frenchmen from the South Branch of the Potomac River across the Alleghany Mountains and onto the Cheat River where they overtook and skirmished with them killing seven Indians and one Frenchman.

By the time of the Revolutionary War, David and his family had moved to the Morgantown, West Virginia area and became very active during the War. David died on May 19, 1813 near Rivesville, Monongalia County, WV.

Eric and Marc had the opportunity to meet many descendants of the Morgan family some coming as far as Texas. Additionally, the event was well attended by many local residents and children eager

to learn more about their local colonial and family history and they look forward to attending again next year.

Our Corporate Contributors



SAVE THE DATES:

November 4, 2023 - Clarke County Heritage Day
11:00am - 4:00pm
Burwell-Morgan Mill Millwood, VA



November 12, 2023 - 21st Annual Meeting
2:00pm
Godfrey Miller Center, 28 S. Loudoun St., Winchester, VA



February 19, 2024 - George Washington's Birthday Celebration
Winchester Brew Works, Winchester, VA



May 18, 2024 - Fort Loudoun Day
419 North Loudoun St., Winchester, VA

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