Neal Thomas Hurst

110 Rusty Court

Williamsburg, Va, 23188

**EDUCATION**

***The University of Delaware*** July 2013 – May 2015

* Master of Arts and Sciences
* Lois F. McNeil Fellow, Winterthur Program in American Material Culture
* Thesis: *“for the heat is beyond your conception…:”* Eighteenth Century Men’s Summer Dress in the American South.
* Certificate in Museum Studies

***The College of William and Mary in Virginia*** September 2011 – May 2013

* Bachelors of Arts in History, Cum Laude
* High Honors for Undergraduate Honors Thesis: *“a kind of armour, being peculiar to America:”* The American Hunting Shirt.
* Certificate from the National Institute of American History and Democracy in Early American History, Material Culture, and Museum Studies
* Awarded Minor Tyler Grant for Undergraduate Research

***Thomas Nelson Community College*** July 2008 – May 2011

* Associates Degree in Social Sciences, Magna Cum Laude
* Certificate of General Education, Magna Cum Laude
* Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

***Old Dominion University*** September 2002 – May 2004

* Studied History and Music Education

**PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND INTERNSHIPS**

***Associate Curator of Costume and Textiles*** July 2016 – Present

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, Va

***Assistant Curator*** June 2015 – July 2016

The Museum of the American Revolution, Philadelphia, Pa

Responsibilities:

* Core Exhibition Work:
  + Tracking over 400 public and privately owned objects.
  + Writing over 600 object labels
  + Collaborated with the curatorial team to write, rewrite, and review the gallery script.
  + Finding images and permissions.
  + Researching objects for label content.
  + Provided content and concept designs to media and movie producers.
  + Reviewed text and graphic panels to return to graphic designers.
  + The museum is now moving into exhibit fabrication and movie production phase.
* Tableaux
  + Creating clothing for two of nine tableaux
    - April 1781 tidewater Virginia slaves and Arnold’s Legion member
    - November 1777 Philadelphia State House Prisoners
* Collections Work:
  + Proposed objects for museum to purchase.
  + Proposed objects for deaccession.
  + Working to catalog and review the over 3,000 objects in the collection.
* Social Media
  + Provides regular content and answers questions through various social media platforms.
  + Operated the museum’s social media pages.
* Education
  + Helping the Director of Learning to develop museum programing.
  + Bringing the “The First Oval Office” to schools and other events around the country to educate the public on how General Washington lived in the field during the Revolution.
* Fundraising
  + Attending and helping Development Officers with various fundraising functions.
  + Identifying and cultivating museum donors and lenders.
  + Providing lectures, both public and private, to help bring awareness to the museum.

***Foreman*** December 2012 – May 2013

“The First Oval Office” Reconstruction of George Washington’s Marquee Tent

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, Virginia and The American Revolution Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Responsibilities:

* Overseeing the patterning, cutting, and construction of Washington’s Marquee.
* Developing and researching interpretive materials.
* Managing the hired positions and daily operations of the interpretive site when sewing begins in the summer of 2013.
* Maintaining social media and blog for the project.
* Collaboratively working with curators from the American Revolution Center to develop a small exhibit to be mounted in May 2013 in Colonial Williamsburg.

***Tailor*** July2011-Present

N. Hurst, Historic Tailoring, Williamsburg, Virginia

Personal Business

Responsibilities:

* Reproducing high quality historic menswear from the 17th through 18th centuries for museums and private customers.
* Providing consulting work for historic sites on exhibitions, historic clothing, and clothing interpretation.

***Journeymen Tailor*** August 2004 – August 2011

Department of Historic Trades

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, Virginia

Responsibilities:

* Completed a seven-year apprenticeship by studying and preserving the art of the tailor’s trade.
* Documenting, patterning, and analyzing original garments in collections in both the United States and the United Kingdom.
* Accurately reproducing the 18th century processes and products as a tradesman, historian, interpreter, and educator.
* Actively interpreting the trade within Colonial Williamsburg’s Margret Hunter Millinery Shop.
* Working collaboratively with the mantua makers and other tradesmen to complete large-scale interpretive projects.

***Historic Interpreter*** August 2002 – August 2004

Jamestown – Yorktown Foundation, Jamestown, Virginia

Responsibilities:

* Interpreting the life of 17th and 18th Century soldiers through material culture and hands-on demonstrations.
* Researching and developing educational programs for the public.

**NOTABLE PROJECTS**

***Suit of Clothing for Tommy Potts (Spring 2015)***

Reconstructing a suit of clothing based on receipts and accounts for Tommy Potts of Pottsgrove Manor, Pennsylvania.

***Pennsylvania Line Officer Suit, 1777 (Spring 2014)***

Reconstructed, life size suit for a model to be used in a scene within the Museum of the American Revolution’s exhibits depicting a captured officer in the “Long Room” in Independence Hall.

***Reconstruction of George Washington’s Marquee “The First Oval Office” (Summer 2013)***

The Museum of the American Revolution and The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Williamsburg, Virginia

* Reproducing an exact, full-scale copy of George Washington’s Marquee tent.

***Scale (1/6) Reproduction of George Washington’s Marquee “The First Oval Office”***

The Museum of the American Revolution

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

* Completed scaled reproduction tent to provide exhibit designers a sense of the tents’ footprint.

***Reconstruction of the John Blair Coat (Final Apprenticeship Project)***

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Williamsburg, Virginia

* Reconstructed the only known coat to have been worn in Williamsburg.
* Completed pattern and notes taken from the extant garment.
* Used reproduction fabric from France to match the uncut voided velvet.
* Created a timeline and pictorial evolution of the coat that illustrated how the garment was refashioned overtime.
* Presented on the garment, construction, and history at the 2012 Costume Society of America’s National Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia.

***Reconstruction of George Washington’s Livery***

George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate, Museum, and Gardens

Mount Vernon, Virginia

* Constructed two liveries for the exhibition entitled “*Hoecakes & Hospitality: Cooking with Martha Washington.”*
* Created reproductions based on written descriptions, extant objects and period artwork.

***“Fur to Fashion”***

Grand Portage National Park, National Park Service

Grand Portage, Minnesota

* Constructed a red fox fur trimmed cloak, 1770’s boys suit trimmed in sable, and a scarlet broadcloth coat trimmed in grey fox.

***“Discovering the Real George Washington” (Traveling Exhibit)***

George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate, Museum, and Gardens

Mount Vernon, Virginia

* Constructed shirts, ruffles, neck stocks, and rollers for the five forensically reconstructed mannequins.
* http://www.discovergeorgewashington.org

***John Smith Suit, 1607***

Virginia’s Quadricentennial Anniversary

Jamestown, Virginia

* Traveled to England to study surviving 17th century clothing.
* Based on study trip, constructed a suit of clothing for official John Smith of the 400th Anniversary of Virginia.

***“Discovering the Real George Washington”***

George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate, Museum, and Gardens

Mount Vernon, Virginia

* Constructed shirts, ruffles, neck stocks, and rollers for the five forensically reconstructed mannequins displayed at the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center.

***Slave Livery***

The 1719 William Trent House Museum

Trenton, Virginia

* Constructed a fully mounted livery, coachmen’s, and field slaves clothing, in order to interpret slave life in early New Jersey.

***Free and Enslaved Africans Clothing***

Freedom Park

James City County, Virginia

* Constructed jackets, trousers, and shirts for display to represent a 1810s freed slave family from James City County, Virginia.

***Enslaved Children Clothing***

The Fredrick Douglas National Historic Site, National Park Service

District of Columbia

* Constructed a plain linen shirt used in children’s programs as an example of what Douglas wore as a young slave.

***“Slavery in New York”***

The New York Historical Society

New York City, New York

* Constructed clothing for exhibit *“Slavery in New York,”* consisting of a red checked jacket and osnaburg shirt, based on a runaway description from a New York newspaper.
* http://www.slaveryinnewyork.org

**PUBLICATIONS**

“Now fitting out for a cruize…against the Enemies of America: Captain John McNachtane and the Ship *Revolution.”* (research and writing in progress)

“Abraham Greaves Shear Dynasty.” (research and writing in progress)

*“Liberties Glorious Cause:” Three School Girls’ Cipher Books from Windsor, North Carolina, 1776-1781.”* The SAR Studies of the American Revolution. University of Virginia Press. (Forthcoming Volume in 2016).

*“*Hunting Shirt*.”* in *Clothing and Fashion American Fashion from Head to Toe,* Vol. 2, edited by Jose F. Blanco and Patricia Hunt-Hurst. ABC-CLIO: Santa Barbara, 2016.

“Tailoring for an Army: the Schuylkill Arsenal.” *Military Collector and Historian,* Vol. 64, No. 4 (Winter 2012).

“Williamsburg Gunpowder Incident.” in *Reporting the Revolution*, edited by Todd Andrlik. Sourcebooks: Chicago, 2012.

“Addendum: Fringe on American Hunting Shirts, ca 1775-1815,” *Military Collector and Historian*, Vol. 63, No. 2, (Summer 2011).

“United States Soldier’s Shirt of 1806,” *Military Collector and Historian,* Vol. 62, No. 4. (Winter 2010).

“…trimmed & ornamented with fringe; Fringe on the Elusive American Hunting Shirt,” *Military Collector and Historian,* Vol. 62, (Fall 2010).,

“A Brief History of the 97th Pennsylvania,” *The Log House,* The Downingtown Historical Society, Vol. 6, No 1, (Winter 2001).

**SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS**

*“for the heat is beyond your conception…:”* Eighteenth Century Men’s Summer Dress in the American South. Colonial Williamsburg Textile Symposium, Stitching Together a Nation, March 15-17, 2015

*“Liberties Glorious Cause:” Three School Girls’ Cipher Books from Windsor, North Carolina, 1776-1781,”* Sons of the American Revolution Annual Conference, Williamsburg, Virginia, June 20-22, 2014.

*Reconstructing the Coat of John Blair Jr*. Costume Society of American National Symposium, Atlanta, Georgia, May 31 – June 2, 2012.

*“…a kind of Armour peculiar to America.” Virginia and the hunting shirt.”* Virginia Forum Conference, James Madison University, March 29-31, 2012

*“Bridging the Gap; A Story of a 21st Century Apprentice.”* A Reconstructed Visitable Past: Recreated Period Attire at Heritage Sites, Williamsburg, Virginia, March 17-18, 2011.

*“Thin and light as Possible: Men’s Summer Clothing of the 18th Century* (Lecture) Costume Society of America South Eastern Regional Annual Symposium and Meeting, Ashville, North Carolina, September 10-12, 2010.

*“…trimmed & ornamented with fringe; Fringe on the Elusive American Hunting Shirt,”* (Lecture) Costume Society of America South Eastern Regional Annual Symposium and Meeting, Fredericksburg, Virginia, October 22-25, 2009.

**PUBLIC COLLECTIONS RESEARCHED AND STUDIED WITHIN**

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| ***United States*** | ***United Kingdom*** |
| * Maryland Historical Society | * The Museum of London |
| * The Chester County Historical Society | * The Costume Gallery at Platt Hall |
| * The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation * The National Civil War Museum * The Philadelphia Museum of Art * The Richmond History Center * The Museum of the Confederacy * Daughters of the American Revolution Museum | * The Costume Gallery at Nottingham * The Victoria & Albert Museum * The Holborn Museum |
| * The Heinz History Center |  |

* George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate,

Museum, & Gardens

* Historic London Town
* Maryland Historical Society
* The Charleston Museum

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

* Early American Industries Association
* The Company of Military Historians
* The Costume Society America
* The Society of Winterthur Fellows
* The Decorative Arts Trust

References Available Upon Request