

# Civil War Living History Weekend Expands to Three Newport News Sites

~ Historians to be placed at Newport News Park, Endview Plantation, and Lee Hall Mansion April 13-14 ~

**Newport News, VA, March 26, 2019** – Learn about the historic events surrounding the *Civil War Siege of Yorktown* in immersive environments at three sites within Newport News, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 13 and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 14. Endview Plantation, Lee Hall Mansion, and Newport News Park will host living historians, portraying either military or civilian individuals associated with the spring 1862 events that brought troops to our area.

Start the day at Endview Plantation, where exhibitions and period rooms in the main house will focus on Dr. and Mrs. Humphrey Harwood Curtis, residents of Endview at the time of the Civil War. A tour of the house, which is celebrating its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, will include encounters with family members packing to leave the area for safer locales away from the fighting. Hike the quarter-mile nature trail and visit the medicinal garden to get an idea of natural and herbal remedies native to Virginia, which were used to treat both soldiers and civilians before, during, and after the war.

Continue to learn about 1862 life in the area by visiting Lee Hall Mansion, where living historians portraying Gen. John B. Magruder's staff will be stationed inside the main house. Lee Hall Mansion served as Gen. Magruder's headquarters. This is where Magruder and his staff gathered intelligence on the enemy, relayed orders, and maintained the army in the field.

To reinforce Magruder's troops, soldiers began arriving from Northern Virginia, but regiments from the south, such as the 3<sup>rd</sup> South Carolina Infantry, also passed by or camped on Lee Hall's property before moving elsewhere along the Confederate fortifications. During the weekend, visitors will have the opportunity to interact with soldiers portraying members of the 3<sup>rd</sup> SC Infantry at Lee Hall Mansion.

A visit to Newport News Park will offer visitors a chance to learn from living historians portraying members of the 15<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vermont Infantry at the original site of the Battle of Dam No. 1.

All weekend programs are included in regular admission to Endview Plantation, 362 Yorktown Road, and Lee Hall Mansion, 163 Yorktown Road. Access to Newport News Park is free. To reach the living historians at Newport News Park, enter through the main Park entrance at 13560 Jefferson Ave. and follow Constitution Way to the Discovery Center. Additional weekend information can be found at [www.leehall.org](http://www.leehall.org) or [www.endview.org](http://www.endview.org) or contact Laura Willoughby, Historic Site Coordinator, at 757-888-3371, Ext. 304, or [lwilloughby@nnva.gov](mailto:lwilloughby@nnva.gov).

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