



American Evolution™ Digital Trail

What is the American Evolution™ Digital Trail?

Drawing on the resources of The Library of Virginia, the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, the 2019 Commemoration is producing an interactive digital trail that will feature 400 of the most dynamic places, stories and objects that highlight the first 400 years of Virginia history.

Through the use of innovative, web-based technologies, the trail will promote tourism while inspiring, educating and stimulating awareness of Virginia's role in the creation of the United States; engaging new generations to pursue deeper understanding of our shared history.

How will the trail be used?

AMERICAN EVOLUTION™ is producing an APP using innovative technology. The design will support the inclusion of local trails curated by regional tourism groups or local communities.

When will the App be available?

Phase 1 of the AMERICAN EVOLUTION™ Digital Trail application will be widely available for download by the spring of 2018. The curation of local trails will be encouraged throughout 2018 in advance of the commemorative year. The App is being developed to be used long after the commemorative year.

How will the App be promoted?

The American Evolution™ Digital Trail will be featured in all commemoration promotional materials. Additionally, sites will be provided with marketing materials to promote their involvement.

Why should my site or community be involved?

The Digital Trail App will bring awareness of your site to tourists and will also be a key orientation and wayfinding tool during their visit.

How were the stories/sites chosen?

Stories were chosen based on the following criteria:

- Importance to Virginia/national history
- Support of the commemoration themes (Democracy, Diversity, Opportunity)
- Race/ethnicity/gender balance
- Region/locality coverage

How are the stories written?

Story descriptions have been written to provide an educational framework on Virginia history. Entries have been written to be entertaining as well as informative and are limited to no more than 600 characters (about 100 words). Supporting information such as images, video, audio and hyperlinks for more information will be included.

What are the narratives/search terms included on the trail?

- American Revolution
- Citizenship
- Civil Rights
- Civil War
- Conflicts
- Culture (Media/Literature/Arts/Sports/Recreation)
- Education
- Entrepreneurship
- Exploration
- Governance
- Immigration
- Impact of African Americans
- Impact of Women
- Impact of Virginia Indians
- Innovation
- Science/Medicine
- Preservation
- Religious Liberty
- Resistance
- Slavery
- Suffrage