

Media Contacts: Christina Newton, Director of Outreach & Engagement <u>cnewton@germanna.org</u> Mobile: 804.304.1554 / Office: 540.423.1700

> Jennifer Hurst-Wender, Executive Director <u>jhurstwender@germanna.org</u> Mobile: 804.548.9076 / Office: 540.423.1700

## Germanna Foundation Unveils New Brand, Broadened Vision, and Name Change to Historic Germanna

For Immediate Release July 17, 2023

Locust Grove, VA - The Germanna Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to preserving and sharing Virginia's rich history, announced today its official name change to Historic Germanna. The rebranding reflects the organization's commitment to deepening connections with diverse audiences and expanding its role as a public history site in Central Virginia.

Over the past six months, the leadership of Historic Germanna engaged in productive dialogue sessions with supporters, visitors, descendants, and friends from across the Commonwealth and beyond. This collaborative effort sought to better understand the needs and aspirations of the multiple audiences Germanna serves while refining the organization's vision for the future. The valuable feedback received during this comprehensive process has helped shape Historic Germanna's vision and better communicate the organization's growing importance.

Accompanying the name change, Historic Germanna reveals a fresh visual identity with a new logo. The updated design features a graphic compass while retaining the organization's iconic script font and pentagon design of Fort Germanna. Historically, a compass guided voyagers to Virginia. Today, that compass points to the numerous sites and resources under the Historic Germanna umbrella and represents the organization's deepening understanding of a shared history among multiple communities.

"We are thrilled with the opportunity that Historic Germanna's new name and vision offer to create meaningful connections with our past and present," said Jennifer Hurst-Wender, Executive Director of Historic Germanna. "And we invite the public to find their connections through our extensive programs, historic properties, exhibits, archaeological dig sites, nature trails, research, genealogy, and much more."

The rich tapestry of Germanna's history encompasses Indigenous peoples, English colonists, German immigrants and their descendants, as well as African and African American communities. Historic Germanna invites individuals to explore the diverse stories of the past through its places, research, and shared narratives, fostering engagement and inspiring a deeper understanding of our collective heritage.

For more information about Historic Germanna and its programs, please visit <u>Germanna.org</u> and on social now at @HistoricGermanna on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>YouTube</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

**About Historic Germanna:** Historic Germanna, formerly known as the Germanna Foundation, is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and sharing Virginia's rich historical heritage. Through its historic, natural, and cultural resources, Historic Germanna offers diverse audiences experiential, educational, and wellness opportunities. Sites include the Fort Germanna Visitor Center & Hitt Archaeology Center, Siegen Forest Trail System, Fort Germanna Archaeology Site, "Enchanted Castle" Archaeology Site, Salubria Manor, Peter Hitt Farm, and more. Historic Germanna is committed to ensuring accessibility and promoting a deeper understanding of shared history among multiple communities. Learn more at Germanna.org.