

**Position: Grant-Funded Archaeology Technicians (2 positions)**

**Organization:** Historic Germanna

**Location:** Orange County, VA

**Type:** Term 9 months, full-time (40 hours/week)

### **About Historic Germanna**

Historic Germanna seeks to inspire understanding in the rich history and natural resources of Germanna through archaeology, education, genealogy, and preservation. Historic Germanna envisions a future where the Germanna region is recognized as a unique place that connects diverse stories through shared heritage and cultural and environmental significance, fostering a sense of belonging, learning, and inspiration for all.

### **Overview of Position:**

Historic Germanna seeks dedicated and passionate Archaeological Field Technicians to contribute to its ongoing research project, with a focus on African American and Indigenous archaeologies at Germanna's sites. This position, funded by a Virginia BIPOC Historic Preservation Grant, will aid in supervising excavations at the Germanna Sites.

Listed on the National Register, the "Enchanted Castle" is the early 18th century home for Alexander Spotswood in the years after he served as Lt. Governor for the Colony of Virginia. The mansion was built in the 1720s, on a portion of the earlier 5-sided fort that served as home for a group of German settlers who came to Virginia in 1714. The 2025 season will be spent continuing efforts examining the changing landscapes around Spotswood's home as well as delineating public buildings that made up the small community of Germanna nearby. Work will continue at the "Courthouse Site" – believed to be the location of the first Spotsylvania County Courthouse built in 1724.

The project seeks evidence of all the peoples of Germanna – the Manahoac and other Indigenous peoples, the British colonizers, German immigrants settled at Germanna in the 1710s, and of enslaved Africans who lived and worked in the community. While the project findings to date have been dominated by 18<sup>th</sup> century artifacts and features, there are pre-colonial, Civil War, and 19<sup>th</sup>-century farmstead components to the site as well.

Public outreach is a key component to the Germanna Archaeology program. Although access to the site is limited, we treat the site as a public archaeology site where field staff are expected to interact with visitors. "Open House" events are regularly scheduled as part of the season. In addition, participation in online postings (such as photo, video, blog, or webinar updates) has become an important part of public programming.

Germanna Archaeology's excavations have, typically, taken place over the summer months. Historic Germanna has partnered with Virginia Commonwealth University, hosting the VCU Field School. This will again be the case for the 2025 season. However, this position will help expand the season to 9 months of excavations. The remainder of the year term will be spent in processing field records, and preparations of end-of-season reports.

#### Minimum Qualifications:

- Undergraduate Degree in Anthropology, Archaeology, History or related field.
- At least 3 months' fieldwork experience (experience in North America preferred).
- Completion of a Field School.
- Ability to perform strenuous physical tasks in an outdoor setting in various weather conditions.
- Ability to maintain positive relationships with co-workers, the public, diverse communities, and other organizations.

#### Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience with Historic Sites.
- Experience with African-American and/or Indigenous archaeology(s).
- Skills with GPS, GIS, or CAD.

#### Duties:

- Work closely with the site directors completes excavations at archaeological sites located on the Germanna Foundation's properties.
- Excavating with shovels, trowels following strata as it is encountered and defined.
- Completing site forms (taking and recording elevations, Munsells, soil texture descriptions).
- Recognition of artifacts and features.
- Maintaining a safe work environment.
- Excavate units and STPs alongside interns, volunteers, and students when necessary.
- Operate equipment such as a total station, GPS, and metal detector.
- Participate in public events and public outreach.

#### Compensation:

\$28,800 to 34,560 (depending on experience – equivalent to \$20-24/hr). Paid holidays; sick and annual leave.

We are looking for a March 2025, start date.

Applications will be accepted until positions are filled (consideration will begin March 5, 2025). Interested candidates should e-mail a resume and cover letter to Dr. Eric Larsen, Director of Archaeology, at [elarsen@germanna.org](mailto:elarsen@germanna.org).