

History First-Hand: School Programs 2020-2021

Mansion Tour #1: Welcome to the Mansion **60 minutes** **All Grade levels**

A Rock Ford guide in period dress will lead students throughout the house and share the stories of the Hand family and the objects they used. This tour includes basic information about Rock Ford's African American connections. Students will learn about General Hand's service during and after the Revolutionary War. In every room, guides will engage the students in discussion to help them understand how life today compares to life during the time the Hands lived in the mansion.

OR

Mansion Tour #2: The Mansion's Hidden History **60-90 minutes** **Grades 6-12**

This tour goes beyond "Welcome to the Mansion," to include more depth and detail of Rock Ford's African American connections. Students will learn about slavery, servitude and the relationship of 18th century objects in the house to the African American Slave Trade. Following the tour, guides will invite students to comment and discuss what they have learned.

OR

A Spy or the Wrong Guy? **180 minutes** **Grades 6-12**

In 1781, General Edward Hand played an important role in the sentencing of British officer, Major John André. Students will begin by reading primary documents from the Proceedings of the Board of General Officers, search those texts for facts relevant to determining whether André was a spy, and finally, dramatize the proceedings—as only they could imagine them to be. After the dramatization, students will discuss whether justice was done. We recommend scheduling Major John André program for the morning. A full-day program could include a scavenger hunt in the afternoon. *Depending upon the students' reading levels and their desire to dramatize, this program may be enhanced by having the students read the primary documents before their visit.*

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS (\$1.00 per child for each additional program)

A Gorgeous Georgian **30-90 minutes** **Grades 3-6**

Inspired by the architecture of Rock Ford, these STEM-related activities are based upon the unique architectural features of the 1792 mansion and 1780 bank barn. After learning architectural terms and identifying elements of symmetry, texture and rhythm, students will create 2 and 3-dimensional products to show what they have learned.

Is It Trash? Or Is It Treasure? **30-45 minutes** **Grades 3-6**

Archaeology is the study of ancient or recent past by looking at human material remains and objects. Most of what archaeologists find during an excavation, are what the average person would consider to be trash. However, students will learn that each artifact is a clue that can help solve the mystery of who used it, owned it or left it behind. Students will "excavate" some 18th century trash, and through identification and a little sleuthing, they will come to appreciate how their trash can become treasure.

Get Well Soon **30-60 minutes** **Grades 3-8**

Students will learn how 18th century doctors such as Edward Hand created medicines from herbs in the garden. After touring the garden to examine herbs that were available to Dr. Hand, students will help to prescribe herbal remedies for patients with unusual symptoms. This activity is best scheduled mid-late May through June and will have an outdoor component that can be adjusted for inclement weather. Rock Ford does not endorse these methods in this 21st century.

Discover History—Hands On **30-45 minutes** **Grades 3-5**

In this session students will be able to play 18th century games, write with quill pens and dress in (period) clothing just as children did 200 years ago. Art and architecture activities are also included. Students will be free to move from station to station.