

Gravestone Stories

Private Historical Experiences for Meetings, Conferences & Heritage Groups

Research-driven, site-specific historical experiences within Alexandria's Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex—America's most historic cluster of cemeteries—and at two of Old Town's landmark historic sites. Led by independent historian and cemetery superintendent David Heiby.

What sets us apart: While most Alexandria tours stay within the King Street corridor, our programs take your guests into a **52-acre historic landscape** containing **13 cemeteries** and more than **35,000 documented burials**. These aren't scripted guidebook anecdotes—they're stories uncovered since 2012 through on-site stewardship, archival research, and fieldwork.

Recent groups have included the Anna Maria Fitzhugh Chapter, NSDAR; the Eliza Monroe Chapter of the United States Daughters of 1812; the Mount Vernon Genealogical Society; the Historic Alexandria Resources Commission; and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

IDEAL FOR

Associations & Conferences

DAR, SAR, Daughters of 1812 & Lineage Societies

Heritage Tourism Groups

Educational Institutions

Faith Communities

VIP Cultural Add-Ons

America250 Programming

GROUP LOGISTICS

- 90–120 minute guided experience (custom lengths available)
- Up to 25 guests per tour; larger groups by arrangement
- **\$30 per guest, \$300 minimum per tour** (the minimum covers your first ten guests)
- A \$300 invoice—card via PayPal or check—holds your date
- **Available year-round, weather permitting.** November through February, tours begin by 2:00 p.m. so we finish in daylight
- 5-min drive / 18-min walk from the King Street corridor
- Paved routes available in select cemetery areas
- Complex tour guests receive our *Walking Companion* e-book, free

FEATURED FOR GROUPS

From Enslavement to Justice

How African Americans Forced Change in Alexandria

Twenty-one first-person voices, read aloud by your participants at the graves—from the Revolution through the Civil Rights era. Your group doesn't just hear this history; it gives it voice.

\$750

per group

21–25

participants, so every voice has a reader

About 2 hours

in the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex

Offered on a limited number of dates each year. A \$300 invoice holds your date; the \$450 balance is billed before the tour.

THE SIGNATURE EXPERIENCE

The Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex: An Outdoor Archive of American History—the walk every group can book. **Tailor the emphasis to your group:** *Among the Founders:* Revolutionary War patriots & Washington's inner circle · Alexandria's War of 1812 · Civil War memory, USCT protest & National Cemetery history · America250 · genealogy & more.

PARTNERSHIP TOURS

"Rebellious Scoundrels" — The Meeting House Tour

The Old Presbyterian Meeting House sanctuary, churchyard & founders' ground, including the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the American Revolution. Meets at the sanctuary, 321 South Fairfax Street, Old Town. An active church; dates are limited.

Lee-Fendall House Cemetery Tour

In partnership with the Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden: two centuries of lives, from 614 Oronoco Street to the graves just blocks away.

Ticket prices for partnership tours are set by each institution, and every dollar supports those historic sites—we donate the guiding.

Also available for meetings & banquets: expert historical talks and living-history appearances as Alexandria Mayor E. E. Downham.

"Our DAR chapter learned more in 90 minutes than from years of books and lectures. His research is impeccable." — Amy D., DAR Chapter Member

RECOGNIZED & TRUSTED

Featured by Visit Alexandria • History columnist for the *Alexandria Gazette Packet* • Cited by the Library of Virginia's *Dictionary of Virginia Biography* • Featured in *Emerging Civil War* & *AARP* • 5.0 rating on TripAdvisor & Viator • Research supporting Alexandria's National Register nomination of the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex

David Heiby

Independent Historian & Cemetery Steward

Superintendent, Presbyterian Cemetery • Treasurer, Virginia Trust for Historic Preservation • Treasurer, Alexandria Historical Society • America250 Alexandria Committee Member • Community Partner, Lee-Fendall House Museum

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