



Contact: Mary Beth Navarro, 704-576-1858

HISTORY MUSEUM OFFERS AN AFTERNOON ON THE GROUNDS OF CHARLOTTE'S OLDEST HOMESITE ON SEPTEMBER 19

CHARLOTTE, N.C., Sept. 8, 2020 - The Charlotte Museum of History will open its eight-acre grounds for one day only on Saturday, Sept. 19, for visitors to take a self-guided, outdoor tour of Charlotte's oldest homesite. Guests can explore the museum's park-like setting, crossing the rock bridge over Alexander Mill creek to walk through the site's picturesque lawn and gardens and view the historic landscape. Ticket sales will be limited to support social distancing.

All visitors will receive a digital guidebook of the 1774 Hezekiah Alexander Rock House homesite that can be printed or downloaded to a smartphone. The guidebook tells the stories of the people who lived and worked at the Rock House and includes videos and resources to dig deeper into Charlotte's past.

The museum will ring the American Freedom Bell at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. The bell is the largest ground-level bell of its kind in the nation and rang for the first time on New Year's Eve 1999.

"We've missed our visitors, and we are excited to announce this outdoor experience on Sept. 19 to get people back out to Charlotte's oldest homesite. Guests will be able to spread out on our eight-acre campus and learn about some of Charlotte's earliest history," said Adria Focht, president and CEO of The Charlotte Museum of History. "In the coming weeks, we look forward to sharing our plans to reopen our physical spaces. In the meantime, we will continue to be here for the Charlotte community virtually through our Museum From Home program, which offers free Lunch & Learns for adults and digital learning activities for children and families."



HOW TO GO

Saturday, Sept. 19

Noon-5 p.m.

The self-guided outdoor experience is \$10 per private carload. The museum grounds will be open for entry from noon-4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 19, and the grounds will close at 5 p.m. To support social distancing, tickets will be limited.

Tickets must be purchased in advance at charlottemuseum.org/events. No cash payments or ticket sales will be accepted at the door.

Visitors over the age of five are required to wear a face covering when they may be within six feet of any person not in their group, including museum staff.

The museum has been offering digital activities for adults and families since mid-March, when government officials ordered venues such as museums to close. The museum will continue to provide Museum From Home digital programs throughout the fall (charlottemuseum.org/digital).

About The Charlotte Museum of History

The Charlotte Museum of History exists to save and share the Charlotte region's history, helping create a better understanding of the past and inspiring dialogue about the future. The museum is the steward of the 1774 Hezekiah Alexander Rock House and homesite, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is the oldest home in Mecklenburg County. Visit charlottemuseum.org and follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). The museum is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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