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## **HISTORY MUSEUM OFFERS VIRTUAL TOURS OF CHARLOTTE'S OLDEST HOME**

***360° virtual tours take visitors inside the 1774 Alexander Rock House***

**CHARLOTTE, N.C., Oct. 15, 2020** – Charlotte's oldest home – the 1774 Alexander Rock House – is now more accessible than ever. The Charlotte Museum of History has created a 360° virtual tour of the Revolutionary-era home, giving visitors insider access to the historic home's interior, as well as spaces not ordinarily open to the public, including the home's basement and the nearby springhouse.

Tickets for the virtual home tour are \$15 and include unlimited access to the tour and a digital guidebook. The guidebook includes video links that let people learn more.

For \$10 extra, ticket purchasers can add an experience with a live museum docent, who will lead people through the virtual tour, provide in-depth information about the rooms and objects in them and answer questions in real time, all via Zoom. The live docent experiences are available Nov. 7 and Dec. 19. The museum may add more live docent dates in the future.

"One silver lining of this pandemic is that it has allowed us to invest in new ways to make history more accessible," said Adria Focht, president and CEO of The Charlotte Museum of History. "By offering our historic home tour virtually, we make it available to many more people, including people who prefer touring from home right now. Together with our in-person Afternoons on the Grounds experiences, this gives people two options to comfortably explore some of Charlotte's earliest history."

In addition to offering the virtual tour to the public, the museum will use the new 360° virtual tour with school groups.



“In a typical year, the museum would host more than 5,000 Charlotte-area elementary school children on field trips that explore America’s Revolutionary Era,” said Focht. “Right now, those trips are cancelled until further notice. We are thrilled that we’ll be able to bring this experience back to Charlotte students virtually by making the docent-led 360° virtual tours available to schools at a deeply discounted rate.”

### **HOW TO GO**

Tickets for the 360° virtual tour are \$15 and provide a digital guidebook and unlimited access to the online tour. For \$10 extra, people can experience the virtual tour with a live museum docent via Zoom. The docent experience is available on Nov. 7 and Dec. 19, and future dates may be added.

Tickets go on sale Monday, Oct. 26, at [charlottemuseum.org/events](http://charlottemuseum.org/events).

Special docent-led virtual tours are available for groups and schools. Contact Lauren Wallace at [lauren@charlottemuseum.org](mailto:lauren@charlottemuseum.org) for more information.

### **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](http://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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