



The 2022 Cecil Wray Page Jr. Fellowship in Plantation Studies with the Fairfield Foundation

The Fairfield Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2022 Fellowship in Plantation Studies. The fellowship is named after Col. Cecil Wray Page Jr., a descendant of the Burwells of Fairfield and an ardent preservationist and historian. The fellowship provides applicants with the opportunity to design and implement a research project focusing on Fairfield Plantation in Gloucester County, Virginia. Fairfield is a historic plantation owned by the Burwell and Thruston families, and was also home to hundreds of enslaved men and women across much of its history. Archaeological resources span its founding in the mid-17th century through its demise at the end of the 19th century, in addition to Middle Woodland and Archaic period Native American occupations. Ongoing research since 2000 seeks to understand the plantation's evolution and advance the study of plantation life.

Eligibility: Advanced undergraduates, graduate students, and independent scholars of any discipline interested in plantation studies.

Fellowship Description: The goal of this fellowship is to encourage scholars to undertake independent research involving Fairfield Plantation. The Foundation invites proposals for limited field excavations, collections-based research, specialized analyses, and documentary research, either in-person or virtual. Prospective applicants are encouraged to work with us to develop projects that incorporate the interests of both the Foundation and the applicant. Applicants have the option of submitting research projects for either one-, two-, or three-month durations with stipends of **\$2500/month** (housing is not provided but staff will help where possible to locate affordable housing for fellows). Any fieldwork or in-person collections research must be completed by the end of the fellowship period. A report/paper detailing the results of the project must be submitted within 8 weeks, as well as a blog for Fairfield's website. A public presentation of project results is also strongly encouraged. Possible projects include, but are not limited to, the analysis of specific artifacts or features from the plantation, the spatial distribution of 18th-century midden deposits, the material world of late 19th-century African-American households, documentary research into personal papers, tax records or census data, and comparative studies with other plantations. Applicants are encouraged to consider any element of plantation life and culture as possible avenues for research.

Selection Criteria: Selection will be based on the strength of the proposal, the viability of the proposed project, the applicant's academic or scholarly performance, and their level of experience as it relates to the proposed project. The number of fellowships awarded may vary depending on applicant pool and duration of fellowship.

Application Materials: Please submit a project proposal, CV, and a letter of recommendation. The project proposal should be no more than 5 single-spaced pages (including bibliography) and must include (1) research questions related to Fairfield Plantation, (2) project methodology, (3) project schedule and (4) expectations for labor and supplies, if any. With prior staff consultation, projects can anticipate assistance from staff and volunteers in fieldwork, artifact processing, cataloging, and graphics. Field equipment and supplies are also available, although proposals should list specific needs if they are integral to the project. The Fairfield Foundation staff encourages you to review our website (fairfieldfoundation.org) and will provide materials at your request pertaining to the status of collections, field excavations, methodology, current and previous research, and the extent of logistical support. Letters should be addressed to Dr. David A. Brown and Thane H. Harpole, Directors, Fairfield Foundation, P.O. Box 157, White Marsh VA 23183, and should be emailed with the application.

Applicants must submit their proposals and recommendations digitally to Fairfield@fairfieldfoundation.org by **Friday, April 29, 2022**.

