Three exciting long-term loans from Independence National Historical Park are lately installed at Stenton. Germantown Antiquarian John Fanning Watson (1779-1860) collected an English caned Armchair and a small and curious empty clock case from Stenton as relics of James Logan. Watson also further valued the chair for its original William Penn provenance. As commemorated on a plaque affixed to the crest of the chair, Deborah Logan (1761-1839) gifted it to Watson in 1824 after repairing one arm and seat lest his wife think the chair a “Piece of Old Trumpery.” The clock case was already empty when Maria Dickinson Logan (1783-1860) allowed Watson to have it after Deborah Logan’s death. The third object generously on display from INHP is a “Richard King,” London-made, pewter plate, displaying the combined engraved cipher of James and Sarah Logan. The plate descended in the Smith line of the Logan family.

Stenton’s collection received three objects by gift and bequest from Logan descendants in the United Kingdom. Peter Edward Logan Luxmoore (1927-2020) bequeathed a portrait of Sarah Logan Norris (1715-1744), perhaps by Gustavus Hesselius despite longstanding family attribution to Sir Godfrey Kneller, and William Logan’s c.1750 mahogany tall case, eight-day clock from the Philadelphia shop of John Wood. A generous gift from Hannah Lowell Henderson covered the cost of transporting these objects across the Atlantic. Meg Hooper and her mother Rosemary Ellis Crawford gifted Stenton a small silver and shell box inscribed “SL,” which belonged to the same Sarah Logan depicted in the portrait.

In a third exciting development, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission gave Stenton a late 18th or early 19th-century Lady’s Secretary Desk, which Robert Restalrig Logan (1874-1956) bequeathed to the State of Pennsylvania as part of the contents of his Bucks County estate, Sarobia. While there are no probate inventories for the Dr. George and Deborah Logan period at Stenton, this desk is of a form and date that suggest it could have belonged to Deborah. Its presence helps Stenton tell the story of her life as a voluminous diarist, transcriber of historical papers, and poet.

Stenton’s primary collecting mandate is objects with Logan family provenances. Each of these objects furthers this aim and helps to bring Stenton’s former occupants to life. There will be a Facebook Live program featuring them in situ at Stenton on November 17th at 12:30, which will then become a YouTube video accessible from the Stenton website programs page: https://www.stenton.org/programs.
LOGAN DESCENDANT HELPS RAISE FUNDS FOR DINAH MEMORIAL

The Philadelphia Art Commission unanimously approved Artist Karyn Olivier’s design for a new memorial to Dinah in December 2020! Dinah was enslaved at Stenton, won her freedom, reunited her family, and is credited with saving the house from burning during the Revolution. The new memorial is envisioned as a place of healing at Stenton, for its surrounding community, and for the City of Philadelphia. A grant from the Pew Center for Arts and Heritage in 2018 provided funding for a series of community engagement meetings that informed the design and selection of the artist, as well as some funds for fabrication. Stenton is working to raise the remaining $65,000 needed to complete its construction.

David Hickok, a descendant of James Logan, contributed $10,000 toward the memorial this summer and has pledged to match the gifts of other Logan descendants. In explaining his desire to support the project, Mr. Hickok noted that “...so many enslaved people who built and preserved America disappeared into history without a trace...,” and described his contribution as an obligation to help rectify this failure. We’re grateful for Mr. Hickok’s generosity and commitment to the project and hope it will inspire others to give.

If you would like to contribute to the memorial, please visit www.stenton.org/dinah.

In related news, the August issue of The Public Historian, the journal of the National Council on Public History, featured multiple facets of the Dinah Memorial Project. Olivier’s mockup of the memorial appears on the front cover. Inside, the journal includes an article by project evaluation consultant, Beth Uzwiak, and a review of the video performance and panel discussion of “Remember my Name: Dinah’s Story.”

GRANTS TO SUPPORT PRESERVATION AND COLLECTIONS PROJECTS

Stenton Director Dennis Pickeral and representatives from Historic Germantown, Wyck, and the Johnson House joined Pennsylvania Senator Art Haywood and Representative Steve Kinsey on August 19 for the presentation of a $1,000,000 check from the Pennsylvania Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program. This is the largest grant ever secured by the Historic Germantown consortium, and it will support various preservation projects at the member sites. Over $300,000 will be directed to the Stenton Education Center project. Stenton also received a $42,500 grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, for the restoration of the mansion’s dormers and painting.

The Colonial Dames of America, Chapter II, has pledged $15,000 in support of a collections cataloguing project at Stenton. Funding will be dedicated to a Collections Cataloguing Assistant, ideally a young professional or recent graduate, for the duration of the project. Stenton has incorporated many new collections into the museum through acquisition, archaeological research, and loans, especially since the 2014 Logania exhibition. This project will produce an updated online catalogue that is virtually accessible through Stenton’s website, for the first time, and help integrate collections into our efforts to tell the stories of Stenton’s larger plantation community in the 18th century.
This is Why Your Support Matters!

✔️ Still Educating, Virtually!
Like so many things, History Hunters was forced to go online during the pandemic. In response, we developed innovative 3-D virtual tours and activities that were enthusiastically embraced by teachers. The proof? More than 3,500 schoolchildren participated in the 2020-21 virtual version of History Hunters and close to 4,000 are registered this year!

✔️ Community
Neighborhood outreach and partnerships have led to new programming opportunities, fulfilling our goal of enriching community life at Stenton.

Your generous contributions support our mission of educating the public, engaging our community, and preserving this national historic landmark. Please renew your support so we can continue to carry out these important activities together!

At Stenton, Every Gift Counts. Make Your Impact Today.

Volunteer — Opportunities include becoming a docent, helping with our educational programs, or caring for our Colonial Revival Garden.
Contact Rachel Corma at programs@stonet.org for more information.

Make a one-time gift — Use the enclosed remittance envelope, donate online, or use our convenient ACH form on our website to set up automatic donations from your account. Visit www.stenton.org/donate to download the form or make an online donation.

Become a monthly donor — Check the “recurring gift” box when donating online to make an automatic gift on your credit card each month, or use the ACH form found on our website to set up automatic donations from your account.

Stenton is administered by the NSCDA/PA, an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.
NEW TREES, FLOWERS, AND BOXWOODS TAKE ROOT IN THE GARDEN AND BEYOND

Despite the pandemic, Stenton’s Garden Committee has been hard at work this past year, adding many new plantings to the Colonial Revival Garden and landscape. Stenton Committee member Eleanor Peterson generously funded the purchase and planting of new trees in an area that was exposed by the loss of a large tree last year. Our team of gardeners and volunteers, led by Chair Carol Rush and Garden Tender Susan Yeager, planted two borders of small boxwoods grown from cuttings and nursed at Morris Arboretum until they rooted. In form, these boxwoods will replicate the original intended border of small box in the outer parterres of the early twentieth century version of the garden.

Yeager also helped arrange for a contribution from the Garden Club of Philadelphia, of which she is a member, and a large donation of flowers and trees from Le Petite Jardin, from their exhibit at the Flower Show. Finally, Stenton will be adding new shrubs and small trees into the screen near the future site of the Dinah Memorial, thanks to a grant from the Philadelphia Committee of the Garden Club of America.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

For the better part of a year, Stenton was closed and challenged to maintain connections with our community, so we were relieved to return to in-person programming this summer. New connections with our friends and neighbors in Stenton Park brought summer campers from the Rec Center who learned about history, bees, and more, as well as visits from local Girl Scouts. A collaboration with the Logan Library included a storytelling program featuring free books and visits with goats from the Philly Goat Project.

Stenton celebrated Juneteenth through a new partnership with Keepers of the Culture, Inc. Over 200 visitors, including many neighbors who had never visited the museum before, enjoyed a lineup of performers that included storyteller Our Sun Paul, the Women’s Sekere Ensemble, and the Universal African Dance and Drum Ensemble. Performances took place on a stage in Stenton Park while visitors used the new pedestrian gate to visit the museum. Stenton is also participating in a William Penn Foundation-funded grant project spearheaded by Historic Germantown. Activating Greenspaces is a pilot program to activate and promote community equity and engagement and increase community access to open and green space at HG sites.