



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927 • Fairfax, VA 22035-5500
703-324-8700 • Fax: 703-324-3974 • www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

Information Release

Judy Pedersen, PIO
E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov
Inquiries: 703-324-8662

October 19, 2016
PSA-235

Today's Custom Homes Have Nothing on Past Buildings

When it comes to building design in the 21st century, customization usually means specially crafted cabinetry or built-in bookshelves. In bygone eras, that hand-made touch went as far as the nails for a door.

In [artiFACTS](#) this month, Fairfax County Park Authority archaeologists turn their focus on a meter-long door hinge with hand-wrought nails. The discovery was made near a stone wall foundation at the Old Colchester Park and Preserve and is a springboard to learning about the area's past as a tobacco inspection station and port town in colonial times.

This hinge is just one of the millions of items in the Park Authority's collections. The collections include more than 5,000 historic objects, such as quilts, chairs, baskets, machines, and clothing items; thousands of archival items, such as photographs, letters, maps, and other documents; and upwards of three million artifacts that include archaeological finds, such as spear points and pottery.

Learn about a new item in the collection each month in [artiFACTS](#) as we showcase a small sampling of these treasures to educate, enlighten and entertain. Scroll through the site to gain insight into the past through objects such as a commencement invitation, a silk top hat and pieces of broken glass.

For more information about the Park Authority's Museum Collections, contact Heritage Resource Specialist Megan Leining at 703-631-1429 or at megan.leining@fairfaxcounty.gov.

###



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.