

# The Graeme Park Gazette

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2017

## Halloween at Graeme Park

Legends of ghosts and unrest have haunted Graeme Park since the early 19th century and most locals have heard the stories since they were kids. Our staff and volunteers have experienced many unexplained occurrences in the house, such as footsteps, soft voices, strong odors, and problems with alarms or electronic equipment. Many paranormal investigations over the years have also picked up on the possibility that there is something still here.

This Halloween season we have several events planned, beginning with a **Happy Hour with the Historian** on Wednesday, **October 19** from 6-8 pm. Join us for a few drinks, some snacks and a talk by volunteer and Board President Beth MacCausland on some of the history of Elizabeth Graeme and why she may not rest easily, along with some of the phenomena that's been experienced in the house over the years. There is a \$5 cover charge plus a cash bar. Members are free. You will not be in the Keith House as part of this program.

On Friday, **October 27** we will be holding our **Haunted Lantern Tours** from 7-8:45 pm. Tours will go through the Keith House with a guide who will tell you about the history

and the paranormal experiences that have been experienced in the house. It is not a typical "haunted house" with things jumping out at you and is an all ages tour, but young children may not have the attention span to listen to the guide or may be frightened by the stories being told. If you think your child will be a distraction to others or scared, please make babysitting arrangements. Tours will run every 15 minutes from 7-8:45 pm and must be purchased in advance at [www.graemeparklanterntours.eventbrite.com](http://www.graemeparklanterntours.eventbrite.com). The cost is \$5 plus a small processing fee.

On Saturday, **November 18** from 5 pm to midnight we will be hosting a **paranormal investigation** with Olde City Paranormal. Small groups will rotate around the Keith House, 19th century barn and out in the woods with equipment and investigators to see what they can experience. The cost is \$50/person and reservations are required. Please contact Beth at 215-915-9453 to reserve your spot. Payment can be made when you arrive for the evening.



### Happy Hour with the Historian: Elizabeth's Haunted Legacy

**Who:** Adults over 21

**What:** Drinks, snacks, brief talk on Elizabeth's story and the legends of her ghost that have "haunted" Graeme Park for over 200 years.

**When:** October 19, 6-8 pm

**Where:** Visitors' Center

**How Much:** \$5 + cash bar; Members free; pay at door

### Haunted Lantern Tours II

**Who:** All Ages - use judgement with young children

**What:** Tour of the Keith House focusing on some of the haunted history and paranormal findings.

**When:** October 27, 7-8:45 pm

**Where:** Keith House

**How Much:** \$5+ processing fee; Tickets MUST be purchased in advance on Eventbrite

### Paranormal Investigation

**Who:** Teens/Adults

**What:** Paranormal Investigation led by Olde City Paranormal.

**When:** November 18, 5 pm-Midnight

**Where:** Keith House, barn and woods around Graeme Park

**How Much:** \$50 /person; please call Beth at 215-915-9453 to reserve your space



**Befriend the Past**  
The Friends of Graeme Park

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**OCTOBER 11**  
*Lunch & Learn*

**OCTOBER 19**  
*Happy Hour  
w/the Historian*

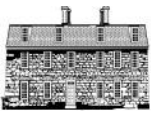
**OCTOBER 22**  
*Living History Sunday*

**OCTOBER 27**  
*Haunted Lantern Tours II*

**NOVEMBER 18**  
*Paranormal Investigation*

**NOVEMBER 25**  
*Continental Christmas*

**DECEMBER 7**  
*Ladies' Night*



## GRAEME PARK



Graeme Park is the site of the Keith House, an 18th-century historic house, the only remaining home of a governor of colonial Pennsylvania. It is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in partnership with the Friends of Graeme Park, a 501c3 volunteer organization that raises funds, staffs, and promotes the site. The official registration and financial information of The Friends of Graeme Park may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Individuals who need special assistance or accommodation to visit Graeme Park should call (215) 343-0965 in advance to discuss their needs. Pennsylvania TDD relay service is available at (800)654-5984.

### TOUR HOURS

Friday - Saturday

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sunday Noon - 4 p.m.

Last tour starts at 3 p.m.

### THE STAFF AT GRAEME PARK

Carla A. Loughlin

Mike MacCausland

### THE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

Tom Wolf  
*Governor*

Andrea Lowery  
*Executive Director*

Nancy Moses  
*Chair*

## From the President of the Friends

Hello everyone and welcome to fall! Autumn is the time to get out and enjoy the mild temperatures and gorgeous foliage. The intense heat is gone and the intense cold hasn't set in yet. Perfect.

We have many programs this fall at Graeme Park. There is Lunch & Learn on Wednesday, Oct. 11, Happy Hour with the Historian on Thursday, Oct. 19, Living History Sunday on Oct. 22, Haunted Lantern Tours II on Friday, Oct. 27, a Paranormal Investigation, led by Olde City Paranormal on Saturday, Nov. 18, our Continental Christmas on Saturday, Nov. 25 and our Ladies Night Out, featuring a gingerbread house for you to decorate and take home, on Thursday, Dec. 7. Read about all these in this issue of our *Graeme Park Gazette*.

Even with the busy schedules that all of us seem to keep, perhaps you can find the time to slip in an event or two. Many different topics are being presented so something should appeal to everyone.

I want to do a shout-out to our school tour committee which is, at this time of year, inundated with tours almost on a daily basis. Our group is all volunteer and these people put in many hours to make the tour fun and educational for the kids. We are very proud of the comprehensive content of a school tour at Graeme Park and know that our committee give so much of themselves to make it so.

Want to win two tickets to our Haunted Lantern Tours II? Then answer the following question and we'll place all correct answers in our prize box and choose a winner on Sunday, October 22.

In the Graeme's time (mid-18<sup>th</sup> century), Halloween was celebrated but not as we know it today. It was somewhat of a harvest festival complete with ghost stories and fortune telling. Children did not go from house to house in costumes. Today's custom of dressing up and begging for a treat has its roots in Britain, Ireland & Scotland. Eventually, that tradition came to America. *The first recorded mention of children in costume going from house to house begging for treats in America is when?* Do your research, folks, and email me with your answer. We will notify the winner and acknowledge all entries with an email.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

*Beth*

Email: [beth.maccausland@gmail.com](mailto:beth.maccausland@gmail.com)



## *Living History Sunday: Colonial Medical Practices*

Join us on **October 22** from 12 noon to 3 pm for a Living History Sunday featuring Dr. Benjamin Rush. "Dr. Rush" will be on hand throughout the day demonstrating some of the tools of his trade and practicing herbal medicine for all that might ail our visitors. He will also do a short presentation at 2

pm. Living History interpretation is included as part of your house tour cost, which is \$6/12-64, \$5/65+, and \$3/3-11. House tours will be run at 12, 12:30, 1, and following the presentation (approximately 2:30)



## NEWSBRIEFS

### **Recent Building & Maintenance Projects**

This summer has been a busy one for maintenance projects here at Graeme Park. The PHMC worked with Jim Miller Roofing (no relation to Jim Miller our volunteer and occasional newsletter contributor) to replace the roof on the 19th century Pennsylvania bank barn that serves as our Visitors' Center and offices. The roof was last replaced about 30 years ago so it was time to replace all of the cedar shake shingles and a sealing coat was also applied to both the barn roof and the Keith House roof, which was replaced in 2012. The state has also continued to work on removing some of the white ash trees which have been impacted by Emerald Ash Borer. There are

still more to come down and they will be working on this over the next few years. A painting project has begun on the Keith House window and door trim and the doors to the basement have been replaced and masonry repairs made to the stone walls supporting them. Paint and hardware still need to be finished up in order to complete this project.



### **Join Our Mailing List**

If you're not receiving event notices by email, and would like to, please make sure you sign up for our mailing list by visiting [www.eepurl.com/VY\\_IT](http://www.eepurl.com/VY_IT) or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GraemeParkHorsham](http://www.facebook.com/GraemeParkHorsham) and look for the link to "sign up for GP news" on the left-hand side. In general we send 1-3 emails per month, we don't share our list, and you can easily unsubscribe if you change your mind (we'll only cry a little if you do).





## THE FRIENDS OF GRAEME PARK

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Friends of Graeme Park is to provide on-going support of preservation, maintenance, development, interpretation, education and promotion of Graeme Park.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Beth MacCausland
Vice President	Jack Washington
Secretary	Melissa Kurek
Treasurer	Diane Horan
Member at Large	Tony Checchia
Member at Large	Deedie Gustavson
Member at Large	Laura MacBride

### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Education	Carol Brunner
	John Brunner
Finance	Vacant
Fundraising	Vacant
Governance	Jack Washington
Grants	Beth MacCausland
Hospitality	Vacant
Insurance	Vacant
Legal	Vacant
Membership	Carla Loughlin
Museum Shop	Carol Brunner
	Carla Loughlin
Newsletter/Publicity	Carla Loughlin
Programs/Events	Beth MacCausland
Volunteers	Beth MacCausland
Website	Carla Loughlin

### THE GRAEME PARK GAZETTE

is published quarterly by The Friends of Graeme Park in cooperation with the PA Historical and Museum Commission

Editor: Carla A. Loughlin



**Befriend the Past**  
The Friends of Graeme Park

## Lunch & Learn – October 11 Mary Lincoln: Her Life with Lincoln

Mary Lincoln was the most talked about, and the most misunderstood, of all First Ladies. Was she a help, a partner, or a devil? Speaker Hugh Boyle will look at the sometimes stormy relationship with Mrs. Lincoln.

Mr. Boyle is the President and Executive Director of the Grand Army of the Republic Civil War Museum and Library, co-founder of the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table, and wrote an essay for the book *The Lincoln Assassination Riddle*.

Enjoy a continental breakfast, lecture on Mrs. Lincoln, and a hot and cold lunch buffet. Tours of the historic Keith House will also be available after lunch. Reserved event. \$25/person; \$20/members.

### Lunch will include:

- Hot entrée
- Deli tray with rolls and sandwich “fixins”
- Vegetarian option
- Salad, dessert, beverages

### Schedule

10:15 a.m. - Check-in & breakfast  
11:00 a.m. - Lecture  
12:00 noon - Lunch  
After Lunch - House Tour



**\$25/person\*** *Includes lecture, continental breakfast, lunch & tour*

☐ Please add my email to your list to receive occasional notices of Graeme Park news and events including the next Lunch & Learn Lecture

☐ My check for \$25/pp is enclosed. Please make checks out to “The Friends of Graeme Park”

☐ Please bill my credit card

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* \$20 / Members**



## Thomas Graeme, Naval Officer

When Dr. Graeme purchased Graeme Park in 1739 his intention was to create a country retreat where he could entertain guests and pursue his interests in horticulture and agriculture. He also had a diverse assortment of political appointments and career interests throughout his life. In addition to his medical practice and involvement with Pennsylvania Hospital (see *Graeme Park Gazette*, Oct-Dec, 2016), and his role as the Port Physician, he also served a Justice of the Supreme Court (see *Graeme Park Gazette*, Apr-Jun, 2012) and as the Naval Officer for the Port of Philadelphia, a position he seemed to hold throughout most of his life in America, although later in life he held the position in name only while continuing to collect the £300 a year salary.

IN Pursuance of an Order in Council,  
I underwritten *Thomas Graeme Naval Off.*  
do hereby certify, that I have personally been  
on board the *Scouter* called the *Elizabeth Mary*  
and upon a very strict  
Enquiry do find that the said *Scouter*  
was built at *Philade*  
that she is of the Burthen of *Eighty*  
Tons, or thereabouts, and mounted  
with *no* Guns, and that she now lies  
within the Port of *Philade* and is bound  
for *St Croix*  
And I do farther certify, that *Matthew Jackson*  
is at this Time Master of her, and  
that she is navigated with *six* Men,  
whereof *five* are His Majesty's  
Subjects, and *one* may be  
Strangers. Dated this *15* Day of  
*Octr.* Anno Dom. 1754

*Tho Graeme Naval Off.*

(The document at left was sold on October 1, 2007 by Smythe & Co., Inc. and was featured on [www.liveauctioneers.com](http://www.liveauctioneers.com))





## *A Continental Christmas*

In the winter of 1777-78 nearly 2,000 continental soldiers encamped on the grounds of Graeme Park under the command of Major General James Armstrong and Brigadier General

James Potter, both of whom were later replaced by Brigadier General John Lacey, Jr. Elizabeth Graeme and her friend Betsy Steadman were forced to move their personal possessions to the

third floor and play hostess to these men. When they left,

the property was in ruins, Elizabeth's livestock and foodstores had been raided, and despite her petition she was never fully compensated for her losses. Visit this time in Graeme Park's history on **Saturday, November 25 from 10 am to 3 pm** where we will have soldiers encamped on the grounds and stationed in the parlor of the Keith House. This is a free event.



## **Ladies' Night**

Join us on Thursday, **December 7** for an evening of wine and snacks while you construct a gingerbread house to take home and enjoy for the holiday season. All of the supplies will be included for an evening of socializing and crafting. Look for details on our website at [www.graemepark.org](http://www.graemepark.org) as we get closer to December.



## Great Gift Ideas

Need a great gift for stocking stuffer or the holidays? The Graeme Park shop has jigsaw puzzles (cats, historical), jewelry, iron candle holders and hooks, family tree charts, historic games and toys, and more. Open Fridays – Saturdays 10-4 and Sundays 12-4.





## Skeletons for Sale

*Continued from back cover*

An articulated skeleton was one that had been defleshed, degreased, and reconnected so as to show normal relationships and movement of the bones as in a living body. There was actually a 1790 pamphlet written by Thomas Pole called *The Anatomical Instructor* with directions on how to do this.

Before the Anatomy Act of 1832, the only legal source of skeletons in the UK was from those condemned to "death and dissection" by the courts. One usually needed to be convicted of a harsher crime to receive the sentence of dissection. As medical schools expanded, the need for cadavers could not be met through legal means so the practice of body snatching, which was only a misdemeanor punishable by a fine, became more prevalent. Body snatchers, also known as "resurrectionists" would dig at the head of the grave, or tunnel in from 15-20 feet away, using a wooden shovel, which was quieter than metal, and when they reached the coffin would break it open at the end and attach a rope to the body and drag it out. They were careful not to steal jewelry or clothing, as that would have been a felony, perhaps resulting in their being the next "donor!"

To thwart this practice, relatives would often keep watch over their loved one's body for a few

weeks after the burial and sometimes iron coffins or a framework of iron bars called a mortsafe were used.

In the late 1820s the trade took an even more sinister turn in Edinburgh and London when a series of murders were committed for the express purpose of selling the corpses for medical use. The result was the Anatomy Act of 1832 which allowed unclaimed bodies and those donated by relatives to be used for medical purposes and required the licensing of anatomy teachers. It was argued that it was better to use corpses for dissection than for the living to suffer from the ignorance of their doctors. The Act also allowed the proprietors of the workhouses to sell the unclaimed bodies to recoup money for the care of the poor. Of course the wealthy

and the poor had differing views on the use of corpses for medical study. The wealthy, who made the laws and were usually not the ones being directly affected by them, supported the practice for its scientific merits,

while the poor were often put in the sad position of having to sell their loved one's body in order to raise money for their own survival. Either way, the Act put an end to the body snatching trade and the unscrupulous practices that went with it.

### Sources:

*18th Century Fliers for a Business that Sold Human Skeletons.*

[www.strangerremains.com](http://www.strangerremains.com).

4/17/2015

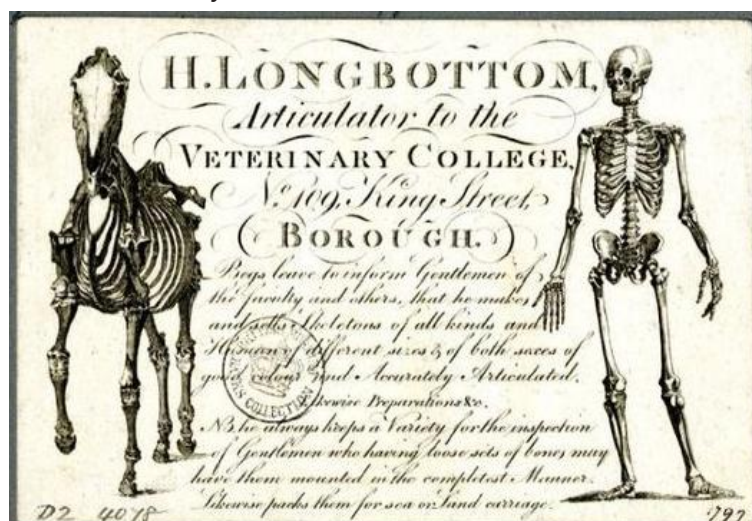
*Body Snatching.* [Wikipedia](http://Wikipedia)

*The Study of Anatomy in England from 1700 to the Early 20th Century.* [Journal of Anatomy](http://Journal of Anatomy). Published [online](http://online) 4/18/2011

*Why that Skeleton in the Apothecary is Worth a Second Look.*

[www.makinghistorynow.com](http://www.makinghistorynow.com).

10/26/2016



H. Longbottom, Nathaniel's son, expanded the business into the Veterinary field. "H. Longbottom, Articulater to the Veterinary College...begs leave to inform Gentlemen of the faculty and others, that he makes and sells skeletons of all kinds and has many of different sizes & of both sexes of good colour Accurately Articulated... NB he always keeps a Variety for the inspection of Gentlemen who having loose sets of bones may have them mounted in the completest Manner. Likewise packs them for sea or land carriage."





Address Service Requested

859 County Line Rd.  
Horsham, PA 19044  
(215) 343-0965  
www.graemepark.org

**October 11** – Lunch & Learn | **October 19** – Happy Hour w/the Historian | **October 22** – Living History Sunday | **October 27** – Haunted Lantern Tours | **November 18** – Paranormal Investigation  
**November 25** – Continental Christmas | **December 7** – Ladies' Night: Gingerbread Houses

## Human Skeletons for Sale

By Carla Loughlin

In the age of enlightenment, people learned about anatomy from more than just books. The use of articulated skeletons dates back to at least 1543, and by the 18th century, there were purveyors of this somewhat gruesome commodity such as Nathaniel Longbottom, whose card appears at right. Medical schools flourished in Europe in the 18th century, and as anatomy was a required course, businessmen such as Longbottom and his son identified the scholarly need for human skeletons and met the demand. Doctors of the era would also often display a skeleton in their office as a status symbol indicating they had been properly and formally educated in the medical arts.

So what is an articulated skeleton and where did the “donors” come from?

(continued on page 7)



*“Nathaniel Longbottom ... Sells skeletons of different sizes and both sexes, of good colour and accurately articulated, and packs them safe either for sea or land carriage. N.B. He also mounts for such gentleman as have loose sets of bones. Letters post paid will be duly answered and orders punctually obeyed.”*