



# VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*The Story of Virginia*

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## Virginia Historical Society Prescreening AMC's *TURN* Season 3 Episode 1 Hosts Tasting of George Washington's Favorite Cider

**Richmond, VA** – The Virginia Historical Society (VHS) is excited to announce that it will prescreen the first episode of the third season of AMC's hit series *TURN: Washington's Spies*, a Revolutionary War-era drama filmed in Virginia and based on the Alexander Rose novel of the same name. Along with the screening, the VHS will host a tasting of Blue Bee Cider's "Hewe's Crab," as a part of its "History On Tap" program. The event will take place on Monday, April 25, at 6:00 p.m.

Hewe's Crab cider (a favorite of our founding fathers, including George Washington and Thomas Jefferson) is produced by Blue Bee Cider from rare heirloom grafted trees. The premier cider apple of the Revolutionary period, Hewe's Crab was first grown in James City County, Virginia, and is documented in VHS collections. Though cultivated for nearly two hundred years for cider, the Hewe's Crab was lost during Prohibition, joining the ranks of many other fine, but extinct, cider apples before being rediscovered in the late twentieth century.

During the tasting, the VHS will display a rare survey (map) drawn by Washington on July 22, 1749. Produced when he was seventeen years old, it's one of the earliest of a dozen surviving surveys created by Washington and is a window into a period for which we otherwise do not have a lot of surviving evidence. The survey depicts 400 acres in Culpeper County, Virginia, owned by Richard Barnes. Washington illustrated the survey, and a description of the land is written in his exactly precise cursive.

"The VHS hopes that this event will create a thirst for history and draw further interest in our 'History On Tap' program. Like the rest of the historical society's collections, our historic recipes are accessible to anyone who wishes to do research on any topic," said Dr. Paul Levensgood, President and CEO of the VHS.

"History on Tap: Washington, Spies, and Cider," a ticketed tasting event, will be held at the VHS on Monday, April 25, at 6:00 p.m. The program will include a prescreening of AMC's *Turn: Washington's Spies* Season 3, Episode 1; discussion; and a glass of Blue Bee Cider's Hewe's Crab. Courtney Mailey, owner of Blue Bee Cider, will preview the colonial cider, and Dr. Levensgood will speak about artifacts in the VHS collections pertaining to Washington. The evening will include a discussion about espionage during the Revolutionary War, featuring Dr. Edward Lengel and Lynn Price from *The Washington Papers* at the University of Virginia. Following the discussion, Dr. Lengel will sign copies of his book, *First Entrepreneur: How George Washington Built His—and the Nation's—Prosperity*. Tickets cost \$20 for VHS members and Blue Bee Cider Club members. Tickets cost \$25 for nonmembers. Registration is required. Blue Bee Cider will sell a limited number of tickets to the event and donate a portion of the proceeds to the VHS. Visit their website, [BlueBeeCider.com/storefront](http://BlueBeeCider.com/storefront), to purchase tickets. Tickets will not be sold by the VHS.

The Virginia Historical Society (VHS)—a privately funded nonprofit organization—collects, preserves, and interprets the Commonwealth's history, linking past with present to inspire future generations. The VHS is located at 428 North Boulevard in Richmond's Museum District. Hours are Monday – Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. for the galleries and museum shop, Monday – Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. for the library. For more information about the VHS call (804) 358-4901, visit [vahistorical.org](http://vahistorical.org), or connect with the VHS on Facebook and Twitter.

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