Title: Peggy N. and Roger G. Gerry Curatorial Fellow
Job Type: Full-time, 12-month, beginning February 2027
Reports to: Director of Collections and Exhibitions
Application Deadline: December 18, 2026

Raynham Hall Museum is accepting applications for a one-year Peggy N. and Roger G. Gerry Curatorial Fellow to research, document, and interpret African American history at Raynham Hall, in Oyster Bay, and throughout the North Shore of Long Island. The fellowship will explore the experiences and contributions of African Americans in the region, with particular attention to the people who lived and worked in the Townsend household and the broader history of the local community.

The project coincides with the 200th anniversary of the abolition of slavery in New York State in 2027. Working with Raynham Hall Museum staff, historians, community members, and partner organizations across New York State, the fellow will contribute to a collaborative effort to expand our understanding of African American history and its lasting impact on Long Island and the state. The research will culminate in a museum exhibition and scholarly paper or digital publication that share the findings with a wider audience. The fellow will also help develop related educational and public programs and digital content.

The curatorial fellow will gain practical, hands-on experience and receive guidance from Raynham Hall Museum staff. The fellow will hone their research, scholarship, writing, exhibition creation, content creation, public program development, and collections management skills.

About Raynham Hall Museum
Raynham Hall Museum preserves and interprets the home of Robert Townsend, a central member of George Washington's Culper Spy Ring. Transformed into a Victorian villa in the 1850s, the house offers two eras of interpretation, with the front of the house showcasing the period of the American Revolution, and the back of the house preserving a late 19th-century aesthetic. The collection comprises over 6,000 objects and archival materials from around the world that document the Townsend family, Oyster Bay, and the greater Long Island area. Spanning over 300 years, the collection gives us a deeper understanding of the Townsend family, those who lived and worked at Raynham Hall, and their impact on the world in which they lived. The collection contains objects such as furniture, works of art, household accessories, textiles, toys, and games, and the archive includes objects such as personal correspondence, account books, ledgers, and photographs.

Responsibilities
- Conduct primary and secondary research on African American history at Raynham Hall, in Oyster Bay, and throughout the North Shore of Long Island
- Research and document relevant objects and archival materials within the Museum’s collection

- Develop and curate an exhibition in conjunction with the 200th anniversary of the abolition of slavery in New York State
- Collaborate with the Director of Collections and Exhibitions and the Director of Education and Public Programs on research, exhibition development, and related programming
- Write interpretive text for the exhibition, collections database, and public programs
- Engage with local community members, historians, and other cultural organizations to inform research and interpretation and develop public programming
- Develop content for the museum's website and social media to increase awareness and understanding of African American history, the museum, and its collections

Qualifications

- Recent graduates from a Master's or PhD program in history, American studies, museum studies, material culture, decorative arts, art history, or related field
- Self-motivated, team player with cross-disciplinary thinking
- Emerging professional with excellent research and writing skills
- Experience in object research, collections management, and exhibition development
- Strong organizational and project management skills
- Curatorial or related experience preferred
- Proficient in Microsoft Office, Google, Adobe Suite, and social media platforms

Travel Requirements

Local and regional travel is expected for research.

Salary & Benefits

$50,000, one-year, full-time position. Benefits include paid holidays, vacation, sick leave, and a health insurance stipend.

Raynham Hall Museum is an equal opportunity employer that considers all candidates for employment regardless of race, color, gender, gender identity, age, national origin, creed, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.

How to Apply

Applications will be accepted through December 18, 2026. Applications must include: a cover letter, resume, and writing sample (2 pages or less).

Please send your application as a single PDF and title it with your name and "Curatorial Fellow Search." Please email your application to Jessica Pearl, jpearl@raynhamhallmuseum.org.