

# Call for Papers

## 2017 Conference of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA)

Theme

### *The Old Dominion and Beyond: Four Hundred Years of Settlement and Naming*

The 2017 Geographic Names Conference of COGNA will take place May 8–12, 2017, in Richmond, Virginia. We are looking for papers and panel discussions to explore a full range of toponymic topics such as name standardization policies at the Federal, State, Tribal, and local levels of government, and conflict resolution regarding naming procedures.

This conference is the only conference that brings together the State Geographic Names Authorities (SNAs) and the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) and provides participants a unique opportunity to share information and knowledge about the geographic naming process and research. There is no better way to network and benefit from the expertise of members and staff of the BGN, SNAs, Tribal authorities, other State and Federal mapping agencies, and members of the geospatial and academic communities.

We invite anyone willing to share their personal or professional experiences with geographic names, research, standardization, policies, and practices to submit papers for individual presentations (25 minutes with 5 minutes of Q & A), or panel sessions (up to 1.5 hours). For consideration, please submit a 250–word abstract to Wayne Furr at [twfurr@cogna50usa.org](mailto:twfurr@cogna50usa.org). Indicate the type of presentation, individual or panel discussion. For panel discussions, provide the names (or suggested names) of all presenters and their affiliation. **Due Date: March 1, 2017.**

Submissions on related topics of interest to a toponymic audience are welcome. Suggested topics may include, but not limited to:

- Names in the “Old Dominion”
- Names from old maps used in the Revolutionary or Civil War
- Issues when the names in state & federal data bases are different
- Geographic names in emergency response
- Using geographic names in GIS
- Coordination of geographic name usage between different municipalities
- Geographic name usage and standardization in web mapping applications
- History of geographic names
- Linguistic and cultural influences on geographic names
- Native American names
- Mapping by various agencies such as USGS, USFS, NPS, BLM, FWS, FEMA, State, and local

**Note: All presenters must register as conference attendees. Selected presenters will be granted a 25% discount on their registration fee.**

Additional information on the conference is available at <http://www.cogna50usa.org>. We hope that you will submit an abstract, save the dates, and join us in Richmond, VA for a lively, informative, and educational experience.