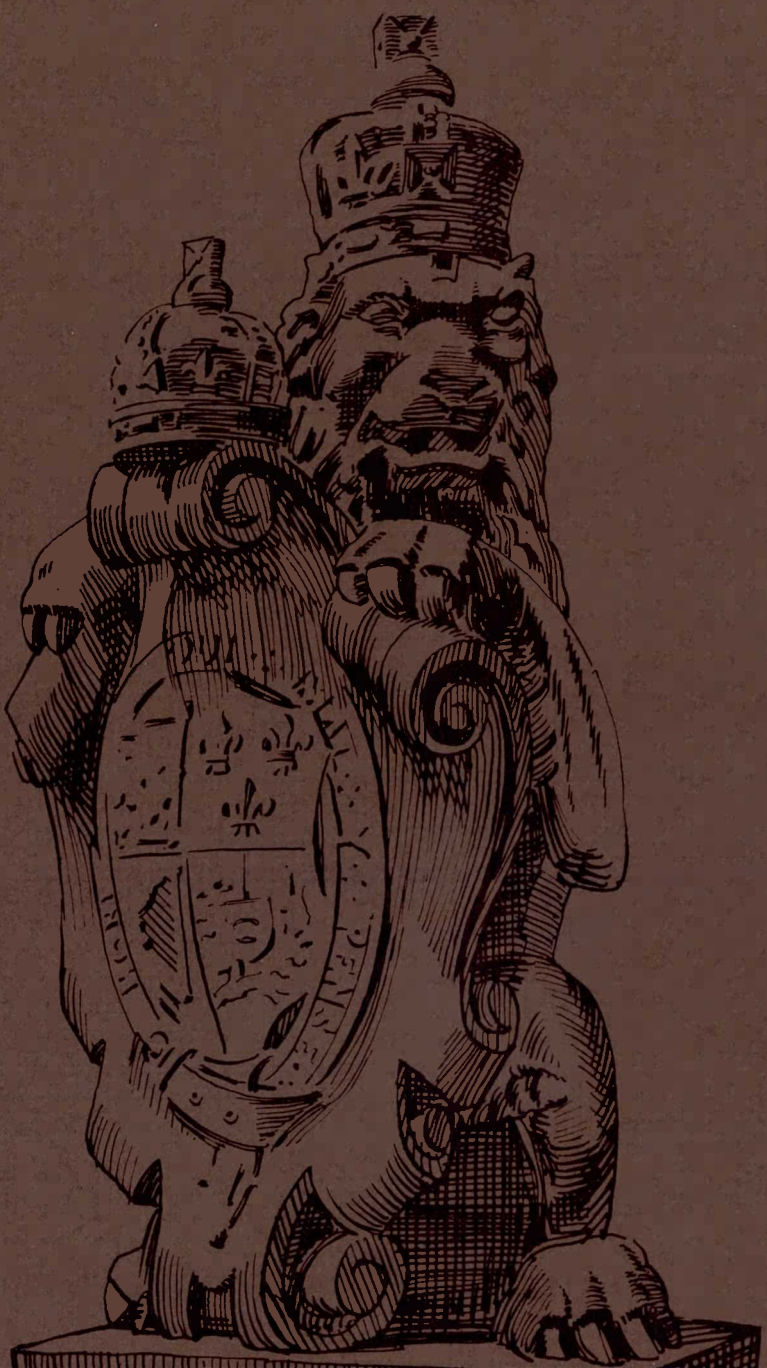
Williamsburg
Prelude to Revolution



AS a cultural and educational center reflecting an important chapter of eighteenth-century life, Colonial Williamsburg offers six major appeals. Any one of them, in a different and separate locale, might become an American landmark. The principal appeals of Williamsburg lie in its history and heritage, gardens, architecture, collections of furniture and furnishings, handcrafts, and preservation research in all forms, including archaeology. Each appeal is supported by a vigorous program; together, they are designed to reveal to visitors a full span of the social, economic, and political life of the colonial capital of Virginia.

Inspired by Dr. W. A. R. Goodwin, Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., began the preservation and restoration of Williamsburg in 1926. He opened the way toward this unique and enduring contribution to contemporary American life by recalling the fundamental principles and appeals of the Williamsburg of two hundred years ago.

From 1699 to 1780 Williamsburg was the capital of Virginia and a proving ground for both ideas and leaders. A remarkable body of men reached political maturity in Williamsburg in this era and met its challenges: George Washington, George Wythe, Peyton Randolph, Edmund Pendleton, Patrick Henry, George Mason, Thomas Jefferson, and a score of other Virginians. The capital provided a setting for and a stimulus to their growth as leaders.

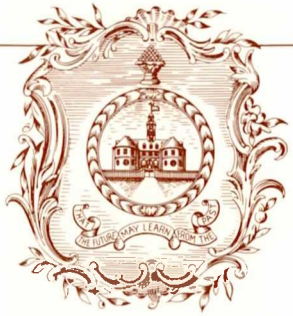
Williamsburg's Prelude to Revolution

John Murray, Lord Dunmore, Virginia's last royal governor.

Williamsburg's Prelude to Revolution

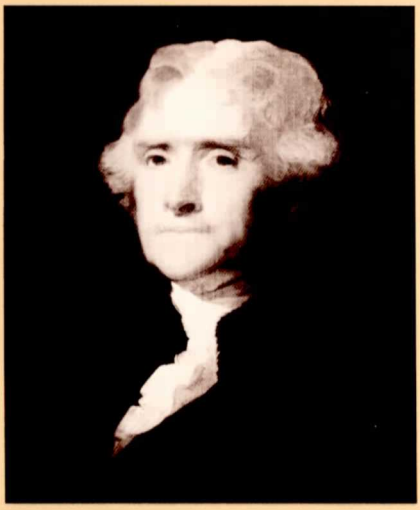
with

A SUMMARY OF THE YEAR 1975



THE
COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG
FOUNDATION
Williamsburg, Virginia

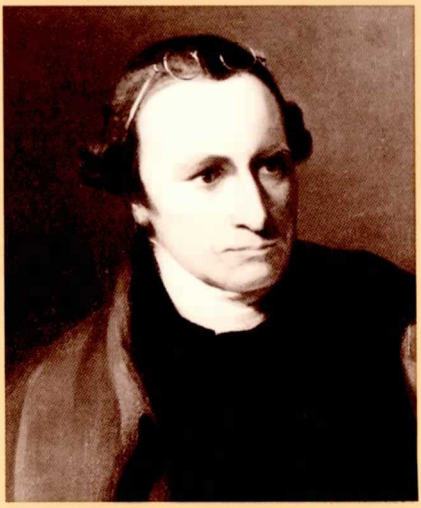
George Washington



Thomas Jefferson

George Mason

Peyton Randolph



Patrick Henry

THE FATEFUL YEAR 1775 came to Williamsburg amid portents of change that were to usher in a new historical era.

It was "a trying time," a time of political instability, when old values were challenged, when the country's moral fiber was being tested, when there were insistent calls for self-sufficiency. Then, as today, the nation's future was unpredictable.

The new year dawned on a colonial capital already made uneasy by recent events. Only a few weeks earlier Virginia delegates had returned from the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia, which was presided over by Williamsburg's Peyton Randolph. It had not been long since the occupation of Boston by British troops had been protested by the Virginia House of Burgesses, which had then been dissolved by Lord Dunmore, Virginia's royal governor. In defiance of Dunmore, Virginia's leaders had formed an association to boycott British goods, and had assembled in Bruton Parish Church during a day of fasting and prayer to express sympathy for the people of Massachusetts.

Already the First Virginia Convention had met in Williamsburg, and Committees of Safety had been formed in every county, new and untried bodies taking the first steps toward an independent government. The leaders of this Virginia movement were revolutionaries destined for lasting fame—Washington, Jefferson, Henry, Randolph, George Mason.

Atop these foundations, whose interior walls and paving of the wine cellar were virtually intact when the restoration of Williamsburg began, stands the Governor's Palace of today. In the debris of the ruinous fire of 1781 archaeologists discovered substantial evidence of architectural details that helped to make possible the authentic recreation of the building.

The crown executive who was their adversary was a strong-willed Scot, forty-five-year-old John Murray, fourth Earl of Dunmore, a descendant of the royal line of Stuart. Dunmore had occupied the Governor's Palace for more than three years, after a short term as governor of New York.

After less than a year, Dunmore was unexpectedly transferred to Virginia, a move he resisted despite a higher salary offered in the larger, more prosperous colony: "Damn Virginia. Did I ever seek it? Why is it forced upon me? I ask'd for New York—New York I took, and they have robbed me of it without my Consent." He lobbied in vain to have his appointment changed on the grounds that Virginia's climate was unhealthy and its social life inferior.

Virginians must have relished gossip about Dunmore, which described him variously as "a capricious ignorant Lord, a very weak Man in Matters of Business . . . so helpless a Mortal, utterly ignorant of the Nature of Business of all Kinds" and "a silly extravagant buck" who gave such vile toasts at a public banquet that his friends were "sunk into silent Astonishment and the Company ashamed of him."

Other opinions were more in line with Dunmore's reputation in England: "affable, polite and good natured . . . a verry honest good Man." One admiring colonial described him as "Short, Strong built, well shaped with a most frank and open countenance, easy and affable in his manners, very temperate, and a great lover of field Sports, indefatigable and constant in his pursuit of them."

Dunmore was to be Virginia's last royal governor, and there was never a more reluctant one.

The governor came to Williamsburg in style, importing a large stock of furnishings for the Palace that included a collection of paintings of which several

The tall-case clock in the Palace library has a tradition of ownership by Dunmore, and the firearms are believed to have been in his armory. The short rifle in the rack bears his coat of arms.

were by Sir Peter Lely, a library of 1,300 volumes, a large collection of arms, many of them antique, assorted musical instruments, three organs, a pianoforte, and a harpsichord. There were also blacksmith's tools and a supply of mahogany and tools for four cabinetmakers.

Even at his departure, Dunmore's well-stocked cellar held forty-two pipes and hogsheads of wine, mostly Madeira; twelve gross of bottled wines; claret, burgundy, champagne, port, hock, sherry, and others; 480 gallons of old rum, and much "common rum."

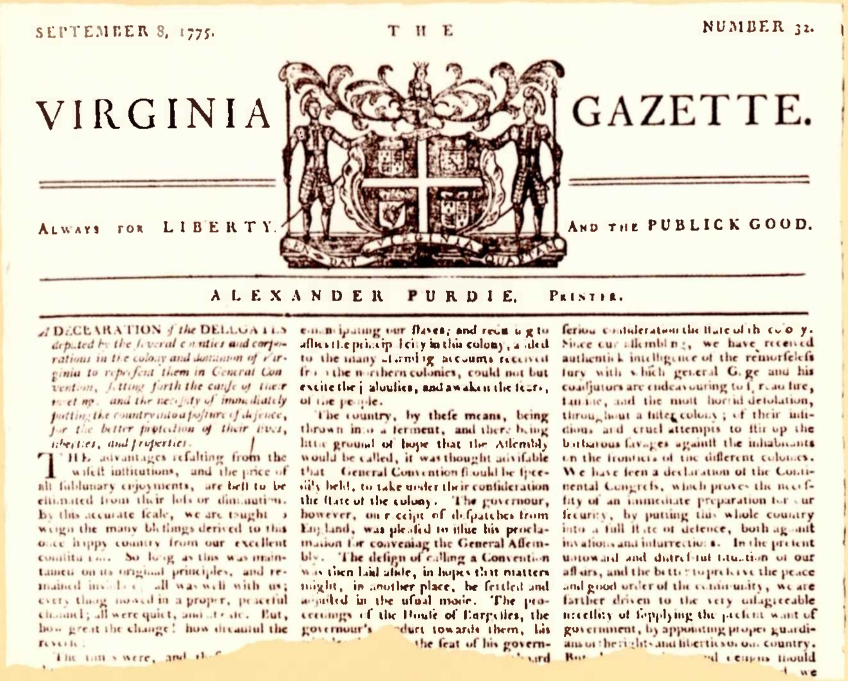
In the Palace park he kept 154 head of cattle and 150 sheep; there were nineteen horses and two coaches, a chariot, a phaeton, two one-horse chaises, and carts and wagons. Dunmore had a dozen indentured servants and fifty-six slaves.

There was gossip of domestic strife at the Palace, gossip in a vein that was to be familiar to Americans two centuries later. Jefferson's Italian friend, Philip Mazzei, much impressed by Lady Dunmore, reported, "It seemed to me that she deserved a better husband, and I soon learned that I was not mistaken." Lieutenant Augustine Prevost, a young officer who dined with the Dunmores about this time, reported that the governor was "a consumate Rake and does not pay that attention to his Lady that she seems to deserve. She is extremely jealous I am told . . . of a young Lady, whom it was reported was very Dear to him previous to her Ladyship's arrival."

As the year began, Dunmore was fresh from a victory in Virginia's incessant struggle with the Indians. He had recently returned from an expedition into the mountains, where he had dictated terms of a treaty expected to bring lasting peace to the frontier.

Dunmore also returned to another pleasure. Lady Dunmore had given birth to a child the day before his

The approaching Revolution was heralded in the several Virginia Gazettes*—echoes of Dunmore's raid on the Magazine, and a call for a Virginia Convention.*


SEPTEMBER 8, 1775. THE NUMBER 32.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

ALWAYS FOR LIBERTY, AND THE PUBLICK GOOD.

ALEXANDER PURDIE, PRINTER.

A DECLARATION of the DELEGATES deputed by the several counties and corporations in the colony and dominion of Virginia to represent them in General Convention, setting forth the cause of their meeting, and the necessity of immediately putting the country into a posture of defence, for the better protection of their lives, liberties, and properties.

THE advantages resulting from the wisest institutions, and the price of all sublunary enjoyments, are best to be estimated from their loss or diminution. By this accurate scale, we are taught to weigh the many blessings derived to this once happy country from our excellent constitution. So long as this was maintained on its original principles, and remained inviolate, all was well with us; every thing moved in a proper, peaceful channel; all were quiet, and at ease. But, how great the change! how dreadful the reverse!

The times were, and th[illegible]

[illegible] emancipating our slaves; and [illegible] to affect the principal [illegible] in this colony, added to the many alarming accounts received from the northern colonies, could not but excite the jealousies, and awaken the fears, of the people.

The country, by these means, being thrown into a ferment, and there being little ground of hope that the Assembly would be called, it was thought advisable that a General Convention should be specially held, to take under their consideration the state of the colony. The governour, however, on receipt of dispatches from England, was pleased to issue his proclamation for convening the General Assembly. The design of calling a Convention was then laid aside, in hopes that matters might, in another place, be settled and adjusted in the usual mode. The proceedings of the House of Burgesses, the governour's [illegible]duct towards them, his [illegible] the seat of his govern[illegible] [illegible]ard

serious consideration the state of the colony. Since our assembling, we have received authentick intelligence of the remorseless fury with which general Gage and his coadjutors are endeavouring to spread fire, famine, and the most horrid desolation, throughout a sister colony; of their insidious and cruel attempts to stir up the barbarous savages against the inhabitants on the frontiers of the different colonies. We have seen a declaration of the Continental Congress, which proves the necessity of an immediate preparation for our security, by putting this whole country into a full state of defence, both against invasions and insurrections. In the present untoward and distressful situation of our affairs, and the better to preserve the peace and good order of the community, we are farther driven to the very disagreeable necessity of supplying the present want of government, by appointing proper guardians of the rights and liberties of our country. But [illegible]ed persons should [illegible] we

return from the mountains, a daughter symbolically named Virginia, who was christened on the queen's birthday, January 19. A Palace ball in the evening marked the peak of Dunmore's popularity in Virginia.

There was a trace of bitterness in the aftermath of the governor's victory—a critical dispatch from Lord Dartmouth, the secretary of state, who wrote from London deploring the administration of affairs in the colony and urging firm control of Virginians. Dunmore replied that the colony was erupting in rebellion and that a group of planters and merchants were enforcing their boycott of British luxury goods with the "greatest rigour," prosecuting violators or handing them over to violent mobs. There was even more ominous news: "Every County, besides, is now Arming a Company of Men . . . to be employed against Government if occasion require . . . There is not a Justice of Peace in Virginia that Acts except as a Committee Man." This strange rebellion, Dunmore said, was one in which "the men of fortune and preeminence Joined equally with the lowest and meanest."

The governor proposed a harsh policy—the suspension of all trade and a blockade of colonial ports to starve Americans into submission. Unfortunately for public relations in Virginia, his letter, which caused a sensation in London, was soon published in the *Virginia Gazette.*

A few weeks later, in March, the Virginia Convention, meeting in Richmond beyond the reach of the governor, was inspired by Patrick Henry's "Liberty or Death" speech to authorize the raising of troops.

Thus in April 1775, when there was bloodshed in the north at Concord and Lexington and Henry's impassioned shouts still rang through the country, Dunmore's days in his Palace approached an end. Like governors of other colonies, he kept an anxious watch

By His Excellency the Right Honorable JOHN Earl of DUNMORE, His Majesty's Lieutenant and Governor General of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, and Vice Admiral of the same.

A PROCLAMATION.

AS I have ever entertained Hopes that an Accommodation might have taken Place between Great-Britain and this Colony, without being compelled by my Duty to this most disagreeable but now absolutely-necessary Step, rendered so by a Body of armed Men unlawfully assembled, firing on His Majesty's Tenders, and the formation of an Army, and that Army now on their March to attack His Majesty's Troops and destroy the well disposed Subjects of this Colony. To defeat such treasonable Purposes, and that all such Traitors, and their Abettors, may be brought to Justice, and that the Peace, and good Order of this Colony may be again restored, which the ordinary Course of the Civil Law is unable to effect; I have thought fit to issue this my Proclamation, hereby declaring, that until the aforesaid good Purposes can be obtained, I do in Virtue of the Power and Authority to ME given, by His Majesty, determine to execute Martial Law, and cause the same to be executed throughout this Colony: and to the end that Peace and good Order may the sooner be restored, I do require every Person capable of bearing Arms, to resort to His Majesty's STANDARD, or be looked upon as Traitors to His Majesty's Crown and Government, and thereby become liable to the Penalty the Law inflicts upon such Offences; such as forfeiture of Life, confiscation of Lands, &c. &c. And I do hereby further declare all indented Servants, Negroes, or others, (appertaining to Rebels,) free that are able and willing to bear Arms, they joining His Majesty's Troops as soon as may be, for the more speedily reducing this Colony to a proper Sense of their Duty, to His Majesty's Crown and Dignity. I do further order, and require, all His Majesty's Liege Subjects, to retain their Quitrents, or any other Taxes due or that may become due, in their own Custody, till such Time as Peace may be again restored to this at present most unhappy Country, or demanded of them for their former salutary Purposes, by Officers properly authorised to receive the same.

GIVEN under my Hand on board the Ship WILLIAM, off Norfolk, the 7th Day of November, in the SEVENTEENTH Year of His Majesty's Reign.

DUNMORE.

(GOD save the KING.)

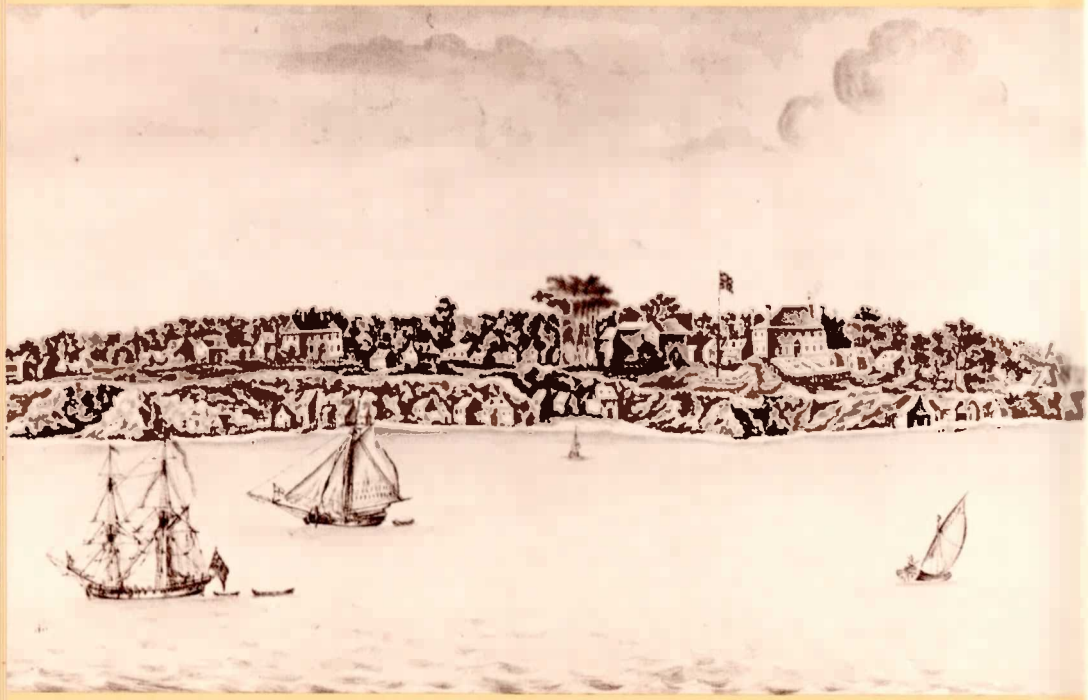
Lord Dunmore proclaims martial law and calls loyal Virginians, white and black, to the royal standard.

on the Public Magazine. As he wrote Lord Dartmouth, he thought it "prudent to remove some gunpowder" before the Virginians could do so.

About April 15 he took the keys of the Powder Magazine from its keeper, so alarming townspeople that local militiamen stood guard for a few nights until they wearied of the long duty and abandoned their posts. When these volunteers left the Magazine unguarded, Dunmore acted. At three o'clock on the morning of April 21, fifteen British marines hauled a cartload of powder from the Magazine. Drums beat the alarm in the streets, the sleepy militia returned to arms, and a clamorous crowd gathered at the Courthouse.

The next day Mayor John Dixon and his council called on Dunmore, backed up by the Williamsburg Independent Company of Militia, which tactfully halted midway on the Palace Green. When Dixon's delegation was turned away empty-handed, a mob yowling at the news of the governor's refusal gathered, but disbanded after pleas from Peyton Randolph and Robert Carter Nicholas. Soon afterward there was more excitement. News arrived that several hundred militiamen had gathered at Fredericksburg, ready to march on the capital. Dunmore responded defiantly: he would "declare Freedom to the Slaves, and reduce the City of Williamsburg to ashes" if the troops came within thirty miles of the city. He fortified the Palace with small cannons at the windows, and armed his servants and several Shawnee Indians he had brought in as hostages.

But the governor realized that he was helpless, and reported to London, "I shall remain here until I am forced out but . . . I cannot expect to be able to make any effectual Resistance in this place." If things grew worse, he would go aboard a warship at nearby Yorktown.



Yorktown, ca. 1755, a typical tidewater tobacco port, symbol of colonial Virginia's prosperity.

After long negotiations the Fredericksburg militia dispersed, but this did not end the threat. Another band led by Patrick Henry marched on the capital from Hanover County. On April 29 the *Gazette* published Dunmore's letter to Dartmouth urging the blockading of Virginia ports. News of the battles of Lexington and Concord appeared in the *Gazette* of that week, but was buried in small print at the back of the paper next to an advertisement by George Washington offering a reward for two runaway servants.

Alexander Purdie, the editor of one of the three *Virginia Gazettes* then being published, issued a broadside: "It is now full time for us to be on our guard, and to prepare ourselves against every contingency. *The sword is now drawn, and God knows when it will be sheathed.*"

Dunmore sent his wife and children aboard the British warship *Fowey* in the York River off Yorktown and called for more marines. These reinforcements outdid themselves on the road from Yorktown, as the *Gazette* reported: "The marines from on board the *Fowey* not being accustomed to marching, were so fatigued when they reached the confines of the Palace, that several of them tumbled into a ditch."

It was a busy day in the small capital. Militia Colonel James Innes mobilized men in hopes of halting the British before they reached the city, while the governor's secretary assured everyone that the marines would merely protect the governor and would not molest townspeople. Before Innes could muster his company the marines were in position at the Palace, ready to greet Patrick Henry's troops if they should appear. But by now Henry had been sent £330 (three times the value of the stolen powder), and had set out for Congress in Philadelphia, hailed as a hero by people along the route, since Dunmore had denounced

The Powder Magazine, built in 1715, was used as a livery stable late in the nineteenth century (above). Below, fully restored, the Magazine is again guarded by a wall whose foundations date from 1755. The Magazine was still standing when the restoration of Williamsburg began in 1926.

him and had forbidden citizens to support him in any way.

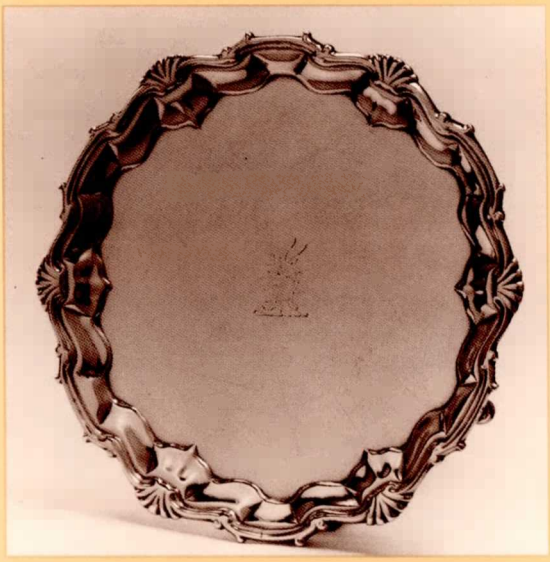
Williamsburg was by no means peaceful, but tensions relaxed somewhat. A few men broke into the Magazine on May 4 and took the remaining guns, swords, and equipment. The mayor and council proclaimed their "abhorrence of such unlawful proceedings" and urged the culprits to return the arms. Dunmore complained of the swarms of militiamen in town, "Even in the Place where I live Drums are beating, and Men in uniform dresses with Arms are continually in the Streets, which my authority is no longer able to prevent."

By May 12 the governor thought it safe, despite the martial clatter, for Lady Dunmore to return, and she came back from the *Fowey* "to the great joy of the inhabitants . . . who have the most unfeigned regard for her Ladyship, and wish her long to live amongst them." The marines left town, but set a trap inside the Powder Magazine with loaded shotguns. Dunmore called the Assembly to meet in June, and news arrived of an American victory at Ticonderoga by Ethan Allen and his Green Mountain Boys, a blow that deprived Dunmore of an estate of more than fifty thousand acres on Lake Champlain.

In the first week of June, while the Assembly was in session, the Magazine was raided by a few boys, three of whom were wounded by a blast from the shotgun trap. A mob then carried off about four hundred guns. After a protracted squabble, Dunmore entrusted the burgesses with the key to the Magazine.

Peyton Randolph, whose handsome house faced Market Square, now took the lead as Virginians moved toward a complete break with England. After presiding over the historic Convention in Richmond, Randolph returned to Philadelphia to preside over Con-

An ornate silver cup inherited by Peyton Randolph from his father and owned by the family until recent years, when it was acquired by Colonial Williamsburg.



One of two silver salvers by William Preston of London, ca. 1753–1755, bearing the Randolph family crest and originally owned by Peyton Randolph. Both are in the Colonial Williamsburg Collection.

A silver spoon made by James Geddy of Williamsburg was discovered in the Peyton Randolph House yard by a recent visitor and was given to Colonial Williamsburg.

gress, this time leaving Virginia as a public enemy. Blacklisted by royal proclamation from London, he was one of several rebels ordered executed if and when they were captured. His fellow "criminals" were John and Samuel Adams and John Hancock.

Randolph presided only briefly in Philadelphia, and in late May left to attend the final session of the Virginia General Assembly. John Hancock succeeded him as president of Congress. The Williamsburg Volunteers welcomed Randolph and escorted him to his house. The *Gazette* reported, "The bells began to ring . . . there were illuminations in the evening, and the volunteers, with many other respectable Gentlemen, assembled at the Raleigh, spent an hour or two in harmony and cheerfulness, and drank several patriotic toasts."

The next morning the militiamen presented an address to Randolph: "We, the members of the volunteer company in Williamsburg . . . are exceedingly alarmed to hear, from report, that the same malevolent daemons, from whom have originated all the evils of America, are now exerting their utmost treachery to ensnare your life and safety." The volunteers offered themselves as guards and ended the tribute grandly, "MAY HEAVEN GRANT YOU LONG TO LIVE THE FATHER OF YOUR COUNTRY, AND THE FRIEND TO FREEDOM AND HUMANITY!"

Randolph was not to retain his title long. He had barely four months to live, and the claim to national paternity would pass to his friend, George Washington.

Two days after Randolph's dramatic return to Williamsburg, the burgesses met in the Capitol under his leadership and Dunmore proposed a compromise to them.

Dunmore opened this final Assembly session with an offer of conciliation from Lord North, the British

prime minister, to the skeptical burgesses. If Americans would keep the peace, they would not be taxed, but might voluntarily donate their share of the costs of government, "that your justice and liberality may be, in the completest manner, free." George III, Dunmore said, had "no object nearer his heart than the peace and prosperity of his subjects." The proposal attracted no serious consideration from either side.

Before the Assembly could draft a reply, Dunmore slipped out of town, at about 2 A.M. on June 8, 1775. He went aboard the *Fowey* with his wife and children, his secretary, and the Reverend Thomas Gwatkin, master of the grammar school of the College of William and Mary, who was the tutor of his children.

Dunmore left a message for the burgesses, saying that he and his family had fled because of the "constant danger of falling sacrifices to the blind and unmeasureable fury which has so unaccountably seized upon the minds and understanding of great numbers of People." He asked the Assembly to continue its session and send reports on its progress. The astonished House begged Dunmore to return: "It is with much anxiety we consider the very disagreeable situation of your Lordship's most amiable Lady and family, and should think ourselves happy in being able to restore their perfect tranquility by removing all their fears." When Dunmore refused to budge, the legislators sent a reply, written by Thomas Jefferson, to the Governor's opening address that was a flat rejection of Lord North's offer, which, Jefferson said, "only changes the form of oppression, without lightening its burden."

Jefferson came to the point: "We have wearied our King with supplications; he has not deigned to answer us; we have appealed to the native honour and justice of the British nation; their efforts in our favour have

been hitherto ineffectual. What then remains to be done? That we commit our injuries to the evenhanded justice of that Being, who doeth no wrong; earnestly beseeching him to illuminate the councils and prosper the endeavours of those to whom America hath confided her hopes."

In short, Virginia was ready for war.

The Assembly asked Dunmore to turn over powder and muskets for public safety. He refused; the Palace was the proper place for the colony's muskets, he said, and he would send no powder. When his refusal was published in the *Gazette,* a mob broke into the Palace and took muskets from the foyer. On the same day, June 24, the General Assembly met for the last time. It had asked Dunmore to sign those bills already passed, but he declined to leave his ship; the bills must be brought to him. And he reminded the House that only the governor could disband its session. Without his consent, Williamsburg's last General Assembly disbanded.

By now, the Congress in Philadelphia had given George Washington command of a ragged little army of New Englanders that was camped around Boston, where it besieged the largest British force in America.

Lady Dunmore sailed for home on June 29. A letter in the *Gazette* by "A Planter" bid her farewell: "Your illustrious character fills the breast of Virginia with love and admiration . . . Permit me, with real concern, to lament your departure . . . Had your lord possessed half the engaging qualities that embellish your mind . . . he would have been the idol of a brave and free people, and not drawn upon himself their detestation."

Although Williamsburg had seen the last of Dunmore, Virginia had not. Throughout the fall and winter he hung about Norfolk, aboard ship or conducting

raids. In November he issued his "Emancipation Proclamation," declaring all slaves and indentured servants to be free if they would join the British cause.

On December 8, 1775, with a force of fewer than three hundred men, he fought a sharp skirmish at Great Bridge, below Norfolk, and was routed by a larger militia force under Colonel William Woodford. Dunmore fell back to Norfolk, but when loyalists there deserted him, he abandoned the city and went aboard ship once more. He burned Norfolk's wharves on January 1, 1776, and much of the city was destroyed.

Later in the year Dunmore took refuge on Gwynn Island in Mathews County at the mouth of the Piankatank River. In July he and his band of loyalist adherents were driven off the island by a force of colonial gunners. A month later, following terrorist raids along the Potomac River, Dunmore gave up on Virginia and sailed back to New York where he had started his ill-fated career in the American colonies.

By early 1777 Dunmore had returned to England. He went back into the House of Lords, later served as governor of the Bahamas, and died in England in 1809 at the age of seventy-seven.

Virginians did not remember him kindly. As Richard Henry Lee wrote: "If the administration had searched through the world for a person the best-fitted to ruin their cause and procure union and success for these colonies they could not have found a more complete agent than Lord Dunmore."

The tumultuous year 1775 in Williamsburg not only left a political legacy to Americans and to the people of many other nations; the actors in this drama also left behind numerous reminders of their lives in the small capital city. Two centuries later, specialists on the staff of Colonial Williamsburg make frequent use of such evidence in their interpretation of the social history of

eighteenth-century Virginia. The evidence ranges from the fine furnishings of Lord Dunmore to a long-lost silver spoon made by a local artisan, James Geddy.

Dunmore's hasty departure did not allow for the kind of detailed inventory of Palace furnishings that had been made at the death of his predecessor, Governor Botetourt. Eight years later, however, Dunmore presented a claim to the British government asking reimbursement for the items he had left in the Palace, most of which were sold at auction by the colonists. The extensive list of furnishings in his claim was to help guide the curators in the refurnishing of the Palace in the twentieth century.

His furniture included a tall-case clock bearing the name of John Jeffray, a Glasgow maker, acquired by the Ambler family at the auction of Dunmore's effects, and, through the generosity of the descendants, returned to the Palace in recent years. The "Dunmore Clock" is only one of the treasures of today's Palace that bears close associations with the past.

Thanks to archaeological excavations on the site, we were able to find examples of Dunmore's "very fine China"—plates and soup dishes bearing the Murray arms.

Two paintings, probably destroyed in 1775, which Dunmore inherited from Botetourt were a pair of Allan Ramsey portraits of King George III and Queen Charlotte. Today, another set of original Ramsey portraits of the ruling monarchs once again hang in the Palace.

Lord Dunmore listed the loss of several fine paintings by Sir Peter Lely; we have original portraits by the same artist in the Palace ballroom today.

The handsome eighteenth-century chandeliers that now hang in the Palace ballroom fit the description of those mentioned in the inventories. The originals were

Three of seven recently discovered pieces believed to have been used in the Palace in 1775 and sold at the auction of Lord Dunmore's effects. The settee and chairs retain their original leather seats, and are in the Colonial Williamsburg Collection.

crated and shipped to Richmond in 1780 by Thomas Jefferson when war forced removal of the capital. No trace of them has been found since they left Williamsburg.

Recently Colonial Williamsburg made a significant acquisition of furniture believed to have been in the Palace in 1775. These seven pieces, discovered in the attic of an eighteenth-century house in Lewisburg, West Virginia, answer the description of standing furniture supplied by the colony that appeared in the Botetourt inventory of the ballroom: "19 leather bottom mahogany chairs and 8 long stools." From stylistic evidence, the furniture was made in Williamsburg, and the family history of its long-time owners is that it was bought by their forebear, a member of the House of Burgesses, at the Dunmore sale. All of the furniture retains the original leather seats.

Lord Dunmore's appetite for personal holdings and fortune was unabated during his stay in Virginia, where he acquired sizable landholdings. One of these was his country home, Porto Bello, on the York River only six miles from Williamsburg. Besides this 600-acre tract, Dunmore also acquired 2,600 acres in Berkeley County, another 3,465 acres in Hampshire County, and a house and lot in Williamsburg.

Many of Dunmore's slaves and indentured servants were undoubtedly employed on the Palace grounds as craftsmen. There is evidence that cabinetmaking, blacksmithing, gunsmithing, harness and saddle making, and shoemaking were practiced on the Palace grounds, and that a music teacher was often employed to teach the seven young Dunmore children. This research holds promise for the future development of an interpretive craft program in the extensive Palace dependencies.

The year 1775 found a number of skilled craftsmen

George Wythe, Jefferson's law teacher and signer of the Declaration of Independence, lived in this handsome house on Palace Green, shown before and after restoration.

in Williamsburg. One of Dunmore's nearest neighbors was the well-known silversmith, James Geddy, who lived at the end of the Palace Green. Not only was Geddy an accomplished craftsman, he was also a local leader of the movement for independence. In 1775 he was one of three artisans on the city's Common Council, and was named to the "Committee to Represent the City" in furthering the efforts of the patriots.

Another of Dunmore's neighbors in that year was George Wythe, the professor who taught Jefferson law. The governor knew Wythe well, for he had undoubtedly been a guest in the Palace on frequent occasions, but Wythe now found himself on the side of the patriots in the break with all that Dunmore represented.

Wythe served in the House of Burgesses for more than a generation as a burgess and clerk of the house. In 1775 he was elected as one of Virginia's delegates to the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia.

Wythe's house on Palace Green, a wedding gift from his father-in-law, Richard Taliaferro, ranked with the best in the colony. While he was in Philadelphia, Wythe turned over the house to Thomas Jefferson and his wife for a two-month period. Wythe wrote his pupil: "Make use of the house and furniture. I shall be happy if a thing of mine can contribute to make your and Mrs. Jefferson's residence in Williamsburg comfortable . . . The Convenience of my house servants and furniture to you and Mrs. Jefferson adds not a little to their value in my estimation." Among the furnishings were some that Jefferson was to inherit at Wythe's death. Wythe left Jefferson books, a gold-headed cane, and some silver cups and scientific instruments. It is also thought that he left Jefferson several Hepplewhite chairs and the Chippendale dining room table now to be seen at Monticello.

Although his name may not be so familiar today,

The chapel of the Wren Building at the College of William and Mary. In a crypt below are buried Sir John Randolph and his sons Peyton and John "The Tory," Governor Botetourt, Bishop James Madison, and other prominent early Virginians.

Dunmore's best known neighbor in 1775 was Peyton Randolph, who returned to Philadelphia in August to attend the Second Continental Congress.

John Adams noted a very different Randolph during this session of Congress, when John Hancock presided: "Our former President is here and Sits very humbly in his Seat, while our new one continues in the Chair, without Seeming to feel the Impropriety."

Randolph died suddenly on Sunday, October 22, in Philadelphia, just after dining outside the city with a party that included Jefferson. As Congressman Samuel Ward of Rhode Island reported it, "Soon after dinner he was taken with choaking, and one side of his face was distorted, and about eight he expired." Congress went into mourning and attended an impressive funeral service at Christ Church, joined by many soldiers and public officials of Pennsylvania and Philadelphia. The next year, in November 1776, Peyton Randolph's body was brought home by his nephew Edmund. Burial was in a vault of the chapel of the College of William and Mary beside his father, Sir John Randolph.

The interior of his home today appears much the way Peyton Randolph must have known it in 1775, now refurnished with the aid of a complete inventory taken January 5, 1776. Part of Randolph's collection of books, one of the finest in Virginia, was purchased by his cousin Thomas Jefferson from Randolph's widow, and Jefferson's collection became the nucleus of the Library of Congress, where some of Randolph's books remain today.

In Peyton Randolph's home his library has been replaced, title by title, in the original editions that he kept on his shelves in 1775. Randolph's old home was the scene of an unusual find recently, when a young girl from Salt Lake City, visiting Williamsburg with

her mother, was walking in the Peyton Randolph yard and spotted an object sticking out of the ground. She pulled out a small silver spoon. Later she turned it over to our resident archaeologist, Ivor Noël Hume, who identified it as the work of Randolph's neighbor, silversmith James Geddy.

Three other Randolph pieces are there today—a two-handled cup and a pair of London-made salvers.

The momentous time of trial that came to Williamsburg in 1775 was repeated, in varying degrees, in the dozen other colonial capitals. To all of these cities, as to all Americans, the year 1975 bore a special significance as we looked back across two centuries to that final year of prelude to revolution: 1775 was a year to be remembered.

It was a time of resolution and commitment, perhaps best captured in the words of Thomas Jefferson as they appeared in the Declaration of the Causes and Necessity for Taking Up Arms adopted by the Continental Congress in Philadelphia on July 6, 1775:

"We do then most solemnly, before God and the world, declare, that regardless of every consequence, [and] at the risk of every distress, the arms we have been compelled to assume we will use with perserverance, exerting to their utmost energies, all those powers which our Creator hath given us, to preserve that liberty which he committed to us in sacred deposit and, to protect from every hostile hand, our lives and our properties."

It was a spirit of resolution that was to become a legacy to thoughtful and dedicated Americans two centuries later.

Summary of the Year 1975

A visit to the Hall of the House of Burgesses in the colonial capitol highlighted a tour of the Historic Area by the Emperor and Empress of Japan. Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Hames, a hostess at the Capitol, is shown here presenting the historical interpretation.

THE YEAR 1975 provided a welcome contrast to the preceding year, which saw a decline in visitation and general business conditions as the result of the nationwide gasoline shortage and persistent inflation.

As the new year opened it was reassuring to see evidence that internal adjustments made at Colonial Williamsburg to survive the crisis had been successful. By the year's end, the organization could look back with satisfaction on a year of positive and constructive accomplishments, including:

- Accommodation of the greatest number of visitors in history to Colonial Williamsburg in a single year, totaling over 1.2 million persons;
- Significant additions to the educational programs in the Historic Area, coupled with the opening of all exhibitions on an every day of the year basis for the first time;
- Further refinement of the admission system that eliminated expiration dates on all tickets, a move that earned strong visitor approval;
- The acquisition of the right-of-way for the future construction of a six-mile-long countrylike roadway from the Historic Area in Williamsburg to Carter's Grove plantation in James City County;
- Completion of a comprehensive traffic study commissioned by the City of Williamsburg that recommended positive steps toward permanent protection of the Historic Area environment. The study and its recommendations also represents evidence of the city's earlier commitment to remove traffic from Francis Street in the foreseeable future "if feasible";
- Major expansion of visitor parking facilities near the

President Anwar Sadat of Egypt is shown being escorted to the Lightfoot House, Colonial Williamsburg's guest house for visiting dignitaries, by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger upon their arrival in Williamsburg last October.

Information Center and the opening of a satellite information station at the Newport Avenue parking facility;

- Provisions for further environmental protection of the scenic entrance to Williamsburg and Colonial Williamsburg along Route 143 through a property exchange with the National Park Service. In turn, the National Park Service received former Colonial Williamsburg property along the Colonial National Parkway between Williamsburg and Jamestown, thereby insuring further environmental protection along the parkway;
- Approval by the Board of Trustees for the undertaking of a formalized effort to attract gifts to the Foundation through the establishment of an office of development.

Bicentennial Plans

The pre-bicentennial program opened with a public event recalling the stealing of the colony's gunpowder by British marines at the eighteenth-century Magazine on April 21, 1775. The incident took place in Williamsburg barely forty-eight hours after the battles of Lexington and Concord and touched off a chain of events leading to the outbreak of the Revolution in Virginia. The nighttime commemorative program on April 21, 1975, featured silhouettes, illuminations, shadow effects, fife and drum music, and militia activity.

Planning continued for special recognition of five important dates in 1776 in the two hundredth anniversary year. These included May 15, anniversary of the adoption in Williamsburg of the Virginia Resolution for Independence; June 12, when George Mason's Virginia Declaration for Rights was passed in Williamsburg; June 29, date of the adoption of the first Virginia state constitution at the Capitol; July 25, anniversary of the official reading in Williamsburg of the Declaration of Independence; and October 7, the date of the first meeting of the General Assembly elected under the new constitution. Colonial Williamsburg's own fiftieth anniversary will occur in 1976.

Special interpretations designed for busy times were

President Walter Scheel of West Germany greets Mrs. Bernice Stewart, an interpreter at the Governor's Palace kitchen, during his tour of the Historic Area last year.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn found time during his July 4 visit to Williamsburg to talk to reporters. The scene was the grounds of Bruton Parish Church.

studied, including outdoor orientation to selected buildings, coupled with new printed materials and indoor interpretations paced at the visitor's option, as well as expanded programs featuring the crafts and a streamlining of services at the Information Center.

Other elements of the broad bicentennial program at Colonial Williamsburg ranged from the publication of a special Williamsburg bicentennial calendar to the annual Williamsburg Antiques Forum, which had as its theme "The Arts in America on the Eve of the Revolution."

Distinguished Visitors

Williamsburg's prominent role in the independence movement no doubt was a significant consideration for the visit of an array of foreign and American dignitaries during 1975.

Of all the foreign visits, the most attention was attracted by the Emperor and Empress of Japan, who started an extended visit to the United States in Williamsburg where they stayed three days before traveling to Washington, D. C., for a meeting with President Ford. Worldwide media coverage of the Williamsburg visit included live satellite television coverage of the arrival transmitted to Japan. The United States visit by the Emperor and Empress was only the third time the monarchs had left Japan in their lifetimes and their first visit to this country.

The visit of President Anwar Sadat of Egypt later in October attracted nearly as much attention as the Japanese visitors. Greeting President Sadat on his arrival was American Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. Other heads of state visiting Williamsburg prior to the start of official visits to the United States during 1975 were President Walter Scheel of West Germany, President Dzemal Bijedic of Yugoslavia, Prime Minister Hedi Nouira of Tunisia, the Shah and Empress of Iran, President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen of Colombia, and Prime Minster Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the noted expatriate Russian

Mrs. Betty Ford poses before a Christmas tree, adorned by decorations made in Williamsburg, in the Blue Room of the White House. The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection provided the central theme for the holiday decoration of the White House.

This pair of hand-crafted silver cups, fashioned by Master Silversmith William deMatteo, were presented to President Ford by the White House Correspondents' Association in the spring. Gene Crain, master bookbinder, crafted the boxes for the cups.

author, visited Colonial Williamsburg on July 4 and became the center of focus at public events marking the holiday. Speaking through an interpreter, Solzhenitsyn offered a moving and perceptive tribute to Colonial Williamsburg and American democracy. In part, he said:

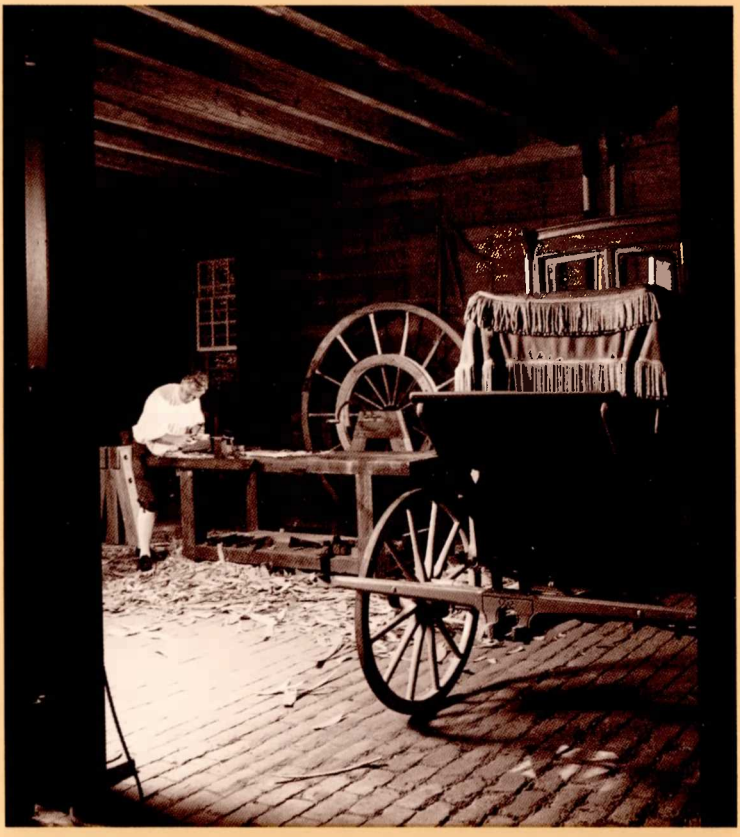
> "Only nurtured development of traditions give the possibility for a nation to develop smoothly. Woe to those nations which sever their traditions with an axe. Williamsburg has convinced me that the United States will be able to preserve its traditions, continue them as they are, and develop them."

Significant group meetings and visits during 1975 included those of the Association for Preservation Technology, the Associated Press Managing Editors, the Magazine Publishers Association, and the tour by Chinese architects sponsored by the American Institute of Architects.

The approach of the bicentennial year brought increasing interest from all types of media. In addition to scores of newspaper and magazine requests, many national and international motion picture and television companies visited Williamsburg during 1975 to film documentaries dealing with the bicentennial year. They came from Australia, Canada, France, Great Britain, West Germany, Japan, and other countries.

White House Activities

The White House figured in the activities of Colonial Williamsburg in 1975. At the request of First Lady Betty Ford, the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection provided a central theme for Christmas decorations at the White House in December. A magnificent Christmas tree was installed in the Blue Room, decorated with some two thousand ornaments made from natural materials by volunteers, primarily from the Williamsburg area, who included employees of Colonial Williamsburg and other townspeople. Also in the Blue Room, ten folk art paintings from Mrs. Rockefeller's original collection of early Ameri-



Another ancient craft returned to the Historic Area in 1975 when wheelwright Karl Gayer began demonstrating his work on the grounds of the Governor's Palace.

The new James Anderson Archaeological Exhibit opened to the public in March. Artifacts are shown in relationship to the utilitarian purposes they served in colonial times.

can children done by early American artists were loaned by the Collection to complement the tree and expand the theme. Dolls, rocking horses, stuffed Santas, and other nineteenth-century toys, as well as carousel figures—all from the Collection—further enlivened the setting. Mrs. Ford invited a large contingent of the Williamsburg ornament makers to a showing of the tree and a reception afterward on December 15. Three days later the Colonial Williamsburg dancers performed before President and Mrs. Ford at ceremonies lighting the national Christmas tree in Washington.

Earlier in the year, the President received a pair of hand-hammered silver cups, designed and created by Colonial Williamsburg Master Silversmith William L. deMatteo, during the White House Correspondents' Association annual dinner in Washington. DeMatteo has created silver gifts for each American president since John F. Kennedy as well as for many foreign leaders.

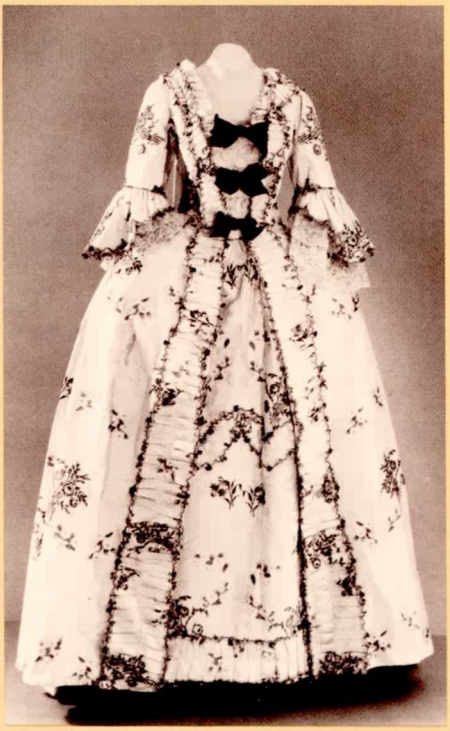
Historic Area Additions

A number of developments during the year, ranging from new exhibitions to additions to the Colonial Williamsburg collection of antique furnishings, further enlivened the Historic Area.

Following a preview before Antiques Forum registrants in January and February, the new James Anderson Archaeological Exhibit opened to the public in March. The exhibition features carefully developed displays, dioramas, exhibits, and audiovisual presentations aimed at explaining the contributions archaeology has made to the interpretation of the history, architecture, and furnishings of restored Williamsburg.

Under the direction of Ivor Noël Hume, resident archaeologist, excavations on the James Anderson site continued throughout 1975 and revealed valuable information about Anderson's efforts as Virginia's armorer during the Revolutionary War years and about his work on the property thereafter. A large building complex with seven forges has

These two items illustrate how gifts assist the work of the Department of Collections. At the left is a portrait acquired last year of Elizabeth Dandridge, a younger sister of Martha Dandridge Custis Washington. Below is a gown given to Colonial Williamsburg. Family tradition of the donors states that the dress originally was made for Miss Dandridge.



Through the assistance of a donor, Colonial Williamsburg in 1975 was able to obtain the only signed Philadelphia high chest of drawers known. It is signed by the cabinetmaker, Henry Clifton, with the date 1753.

been uncovered, and it is hoped that a colonial industrial site featuring blacksmiths, armorers, nail makers, and workers in horn and bone may eventually be presented.

Interest in Colonial Williamsburg's unique archaeological program continued to grow in 1975. The University of South Carolina presented a special award to Noël Hume in recognition of his outstanding contributions to historical archaeology. He also delivered a lecture to the Society of Antiquaries of London on the subject of the Public Hospital excavations. The organization is the oldest and most prestigious of the world's antiquarian societies, and once counted Benjamin Franklin as one of its members. Noël Hume also lectured at Cambridge University on the origins and growth of historical archaeology around the world.

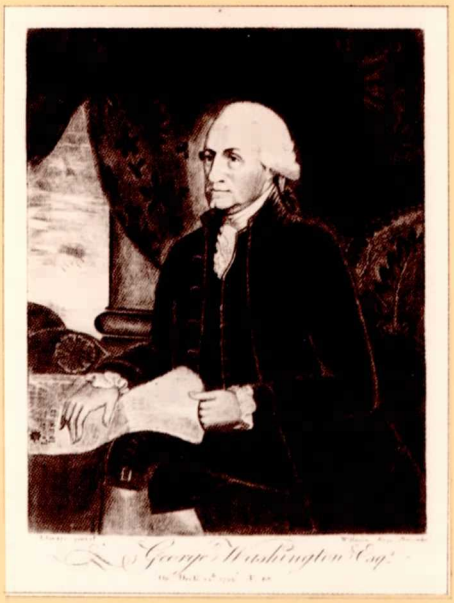
Overall last year, the Colonial Williamsburg Lecture Bureau scheduled a total 185 out-of-town lectures, which were given by 54 employees. These presentations covered virtually every aspect of the organization's activity.

A new craft exhibition opened in Williamsburg during the year when master wheelwright Karl Gayer opened his shop in the coach house of the Governor's Palace. The wheelwright demonstration is more than a new dimension added to Colonial Williamsburg's extensive educational program; it is a practical application of an ancient craft. The wheelwright repairs or replaces as necessary the wheels of some twenty-one antique or reproduction vehicles now in use.

Gifts to the Foundation

Following a trend of recent years, gifts of cash and securities and antique objects increased to another all-time high. The combined value of these gifts totaled nearly $303,000. This generosity on the part of a growing number of loyal and thoughtful friends of Colonial Williamsburg not only provides much needed financial support and adds to the dynamic nature of the furnishings program, but also is a source of renewed confidence for the Foundation as it approaches major challenges of the future.

Lieutenant Governor William Gooch acquired these handsome silver beakers during his long and congenial term in Williamsburg from 1727 to 1749. Last year they were acquired and returned to the Governor's Palace, where they are on exhibit today.



This rare mezzotint of George Washington is one of only a few made before the engraved plate, made by William Hamlin, was stolen. The likeness of Washington, patterned after a painting by Edward Savage dated December 14, 1799, was altered in a later engraving. Colonial Williamsburg acquired this unique print last year.

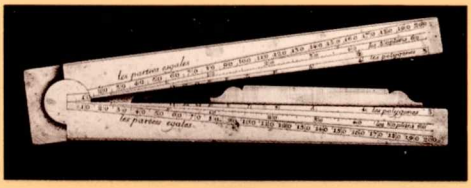
Among items given to the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection in 1975 was this unusual earthenware child's bank, a gift of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Murdoch, Jr., of Brielle, New Jersey. It was made in the mid-1800s by John George Schweinfurt, and possibly is a replica of the artist's kiln.

A most significant donation was a large, general collection, representing the household furnishings of Mrs. William Stout, formerly of San Anselmo, California, and now of Brookings, Oregon.

The major acquisition of the year was the settee and six chairs that were in the Governor's Palace during Lord Dunmore's residence there, being sold at auction in 1776 following his hasty departure in the spring of 1775. Evidence indicates that the furniture was made in Williamsburg around 1770.

Other important additions to the Governor's Palace during 1975 include two large looking glasses that correspond closely to those listed in the Upper Middle Room as standing furniture, and a pair of gilt-lined beakers purchased from London by William Gooch during his long and congenial term in Williamsburg as lieutenant governor of Virginia from 1729 to 1749.

Gifts are often helpful to Colonial Williamsburg in less obvious ways. For example, with the assistance of a generous friend, Colonial Williamsburg was able to acquire the only signed and dated Philadelphia high chest of drawers known. Signed by cabinetmaker Henry Clifton in 1753, this piece illustrates the development of the rococo style in Philadelphia before the published designs of Thomas Chippendale were available. In another instance, Colonial Williamsburg purchased a portrait of Elizabeth Dandridge, younger sister of Martha Dandridge Custis Washington, who later married and lived in the Williamsburg community in the eighteenth century. The portrait was painted by John Wollaston during his stay in Virginia, 1755–1757. Later in 1975, Colonial Williamsburg received a gift of a gown that family tradition states had been made for Elizabeth Dandridge. The gift, which included dolls and a pair of slippers, was made by Mrs. James H. Scott, Jr., and Mrs. Lockhart B. McGuire, both of Charlottesville, Virginia, Mrs. Timothy Childs of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. N. Beverly Tucker of Cincinnati, Ohio, all sisters.



Gifts large and small are of invaluable assistance to Colonial Williamsburg in its efforts to portray the life and times of the town's early residents. This collection of gifts from the past year illustrates the range of items welcomed by the Foundation: (From the top, left to right) An early brass sector, ca. 1720; a fused silverplate teapot, about 1785; a silverplate sauce tureen, ca. 1775; a pair of Chinese export porcelain jugs, about 1735; an engraved steel snuff box, ca. 1670–1690; a pair of creamware lions, about 1780; a Chinese export porcelain plate, about 1716; and a stuffed sea turtle of the hawk's bill variety.

Greater Authenticity Through Research

Hand in hand with the increase in the size of the collections over the years has been an increase in the evidence concerning the exact nature of the contents of eighteenth-century Williamsburg buildings and how these contents were used and arranged.

Colonial Williamsburg is not a static museum. Research continually produces new evidence and new insights, and efforts are constantly being made to incorporate these into our historical presentation. As a result, major reevaluations of the furnishings of the Raleigh Tavern, Geddy House and Shop, Brush-Everard House, and Powder Magazine have been undertaken, and appropriate changes have been made. Similarly, some rooms in the Governor's Palace and the Capitol have been refurnished to bring these buildings as close as possible to their authentic eighteenth-century appearance. This process of change is an important aspect of the continual effort at Williamsburg to recognize the fundamental role of research and to incorporate all the available evidence into our presentations.

Over the past fifty years we have acquired many exceptional objects knowing they would not have been in Williamsburg in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. These objects have served an important role in our scholarship of the period by providing the basis for comparison and contrast to the types of items actually known to have been in Williamsburg when it was the capital of the Virginia colony. Many items were purchased initially for exhibition until more appropriate objects became available. Others continue to be exhibited because of the dimension they lend to our interpretive efforts.

Colonial Williamsburg has long-range plans for a museum adjacent to the Historic Area where these objects could illustrate a total picture of the decorative arts of the period. In a decorative arts museum, for example, high style English furniture—well known in London but not exported to Virginia—would offer an illuminating contrast

with furniture exhibited in Historic Area buildings. Likewise, such objects as the well-known Tompion clock and the William III silver chandelier—both inspiring objects—would have a proper and meaningful setting. Together with important study collections of virtually every kind—furniture, ceramics and glass, metals, textiles, prints, maps, and paintings—these objects would become integral and essential elements in an expanded Williamsburg experience.

Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection

Besides the major involvement with the Christmas show at the White House, 1975 at the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection also was marked by a record number of special exhibitions, the publication of an informative inexpensive color-illustrated gallery guide, and several important additions to the museum's permanent collection.

Major loan shows included an exhibition of more than forty paintings by Queena Stovall, a contemporary Lynchburg, Virginia, artist whose scenes are warm depictions of life in her Blue Ridge Piedmont community. "Three New England Watercolor Painters" featured eighty small portraits by three non-academic artists, Joseph H. Davis, J. A. Davis, and J. Evans. Likenesses by Sheldon Peck, a presumably untrained portraitist, were shown in the fall.

The Collection also offered visitors two significant exhibits of American folk pottery. Some fifty pieces of decorated stoneware from the Barry Cohen collection provided an attractive, unusual, and often amusing record of nineteenth-century historical events and social concerns. The museum's third annual summer series of exhibits focusing on little known Virginia folk art featured seventy-five examples of pottery from the Shenandoah. Concluding the year was the traditional Christmas show, which proved particularly popular, attracting more than thirty-six thousand visitors in a three-week period.

Gifts and loans to the Collection during the year again figured as a major factor in the growth and development of

the museum. In turn, the Collection loaned a record 196 objects to sister institutions including items in a major traveling exhibition that opened in Atlanta in 1974 and was scheduled to conclude in Little Rock, Arkansas, in August 1976.

Institute of Early American History and Culture

Besides a quota of new publications and special activities, 1975 at the Institute of Early American History and Culture was also notable for the strengthening of some of its regular programs and continued work on such existing special projects as the Papers of John Marshall and the Complete Works of Captain John Smith. The Institute is sponsored jointly by Colonial Williamsburg and the College of William and Mary.

The 1975 winner of the Jamestown Prize, the Institute's annual award for a new book-length manuscript in early American studies, was James H. Kettner of the University of California, Berkeley, for his study of "The Development of American Citizenship, 1608–1870." The Institute is now preparing the manuscript for publication.

During the year two volumes appeared as a result of the Institute's regular book publication program. The first was *The Old Dominion in the Seventeenth Century: A Documentary History of Virginia, 1606–1689*, edited by Warren Billings, a wide-ranging collection of largely unpublished documents on early Virginia, many of them drawn from county records. The other publication was *The Invasion of America: Indians, Colonialism, and the Cant of Conquest* by Francis Jennings, a provocative and eloquent revisionist interpretation of the conflict between Indian and white culture in colonial America.

During the year the Institute also began, with support from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, a two-year project for the publication of a three-volume edition of the circular letters that members of the first United States Congresses sent to their constituents during the years from 1789 to 1829. Compiled and edited

by Noble E. Cunningham of the University of Missouri, Columbia, these letters constitute the earliest form of congressional communication with the voters at home and have been a much neglected source for the political history of the first years of the nation under the Federal Constitution. In October Lester J. Cappon, retired director of the Institute, completed editorial work on *The Atlas of Early American History: The Revolutionary Era 1760–1790*, which will be published in mid-1976. The Institute also served as cosponsor of two scholarly conferences during the year. The first, on early American social history, was held at Stony Brook, New York, in cooperation with the State University of New York at Stony Brook. It was organized by Professor Jackson T. Main of that institution. A second conference, on the classical tradition in early America, was held at the University of Michigan, with the University's Center for Coördination of Ancient and Modern Studies serving as cosponsor.

The William and Mary Quarterly continued to maintain its position as the major scholarly journal in early American history and culture, receiving a record number of submissions during the year. Its award for the best article of the year, supported by the National Society, Daughters of Colonial Wars, went to Timothy H. Breen of Northwestern University for his article, "Persistent Localism: English Social Change and the Shaping of New England Institutions," which headed the January issue.

Books, Films, and Recordings

The educational work of Colonial Williamsburg continued to be communicated through the publication of books and the production of a new film and two long-playing record albums during the year.

Thomas Nelson of Yorktown by Emory G. Evans filled an important gap in the knowledge of the Revolutionary period and describes the vital but little known role Nelson played in the making of the new nation. *English and Oriental Carpets at Williamsburg* by Mildred Lanier, curator in the

Department of Collections, was the second detailed catalogue published in the Decorative Arts Series, and has received a good response from scholars and collectors alike. *A Rollick of Recorders or Other Instruments* by Herbert Watson, music assistant in the Division of Museum Operations, was published as an addition to the growing series of inexpensive books containing music of the colonial period that can be performed by anyone with elementary musical training.

Revisions of two of Colonial Williamsburg's most successful publications, *The Williamsburg Cookbook* and *A Window on Williamsburg,* were issued in 1975. *America's Williamsburg,* a small softbound four-color souvenir guide to Colonial Williamsburg, was printed for distribution to visitors when they purchase tickets of admission.

A major addition to Colonial Williamsburg's educational film offerings in 1975 was a 30-minute production entitled *A Williamsburg Sampler.* The film presents a cross section of the varied appeals of the restored capital, as it travels through the centuries with narrated comments of colonial residents as interpreted by present-day craftsmen and researchers.

Songs of Liberty and *The Fifes and Drums of Williamsburg,* two long-playing record albums, were released in time for the bicentennial. *Songs of Liberty* features Revolutionary War music as sung by members of the Bruton Parish Church choir under the direction of James S. Darling, organist and choirmaster of the church and harpsichordist and music consultant for Colonial Williamsburg. The second album, by the Colonial Williamsburg Fifes and Drums under the direction of John C. Moon, musick master, offers military music played during the period 1750 to 1830.

A special photographic exhibit consisting of well over one hundred prints, chiefly in color, was produced for circulation outside Williamsburg following its exhibition at the Conference Center. In some locations this widely traveled show was supplemented by the showing of educational films and the playing of record albums from the audiovisual program.

Corporate Services

Similar to visitation experience in the Historic Area, the Division of Hotels and Restaurants recorded highly satisfactory levels of business by the end of 1975, thereby increasing its financial support of the museum's operations. The Williamsburg Inn, Lodge, and The Motor House, with a total of 772 guest rooms combined, showed an overall occupancy of nearly 90 percent for the year.

Similar success was experienced in the Merchandising Division, which includes the Craft House and Williamsburg Shops activities. In the latter area, new shops were opened in the Detroit and Atlanta areas, bringing the total number of shops to more than seventy in fourteen marketing areas from Chicago eastward.

The Construction and Maintenance Division had a particularly busy and demanding year as economic conditions permitted the initiation or continuation of a number of projects. Included was work on the James Anderson Archaeological Exhibit; the original Public Records Office for special exhibition use in the coming year; the first phase of a permanent bus stop and visitor facility on Merchants Square; construction of special facilities for the handicapped in museum and hotel and restaurant areas; conversion of the former Student Activities Building to a new Group Arrivals facility; and other projects.

Of special note was intensive work at Carter's Grove plantation in 1975. Included was the completion of year-around climate control for the mansion house, reconstruction of the large eighteenth-century vegetable garden on the flat ground below the terrace on the river side of the mansion, the walks and enclosing fence of which were defined by archaeology, the planting of 250 additional apple trees in species of the period, and an expansion of the visitor parking lot by 175 spaces.

All divisions of Corporate Services embarked on expansion and improvements for 1976. All south wing rooms at the Williamsburg Lodge were completely refurbished and

redecorated in early 1975, and The Motor House Cafeteria was extensively renovated.

The Merchandising Division introduced a number of special commemorative products for the bicentennial era. Publication of the special bicentennial calendar was mentioned earlier. The first four of a set of thirteen soldiers of the Revolution, produced by Royal Doulton of England, were offered in 1975, with set number two being presented to the Smithsonian Institution for accessioning for its permanent collection. Produced by Wedgwood, a first edition set of thirteen commemorative plates bearing seals of the thirteen original colonies, including one plate copied from a rare eighteenth-century commemorative plate owned by Colonial Williamsburg that depicts the first seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia, was introduced. Also, a limited edition hand-fashioned silver porringer, patterned after the original made by Paul Revere, which is in the Colonial Williamsburg Collection, was offered by the Stieff Company.

In summary, 1975 was one of the most successful and interesting years in the nearly half-century of Colonial Williamsburg's history. On September 3, 1975, I told all employees of Colonial Williamsburg that "the real credit for our success, of course, goes to each and every employee who contributed to making our visitors' stays with us rewarding and pleasant experiences." During 1975, "employees continued to maintain the high standards to which we are dedicated and upon which our continued success depends."

Colonial Williamsburg *is* people and programs, and because of the dedicated service of our employees, we look to the future with confidence that Colonial Williamsburg's programs, based on a vital chapter of America's history and heritage, will continue to make a public service contribution to the nation in the future as they have in the past.

CARLISLE H. HUMELSINE

THE COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG FOUNDATION

December 31, 1975

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Retiring from the Board of Trustees in November 1975 after nineteen years of dedicated service was Dudley C. Sharp of Houston, Texas. A lifelong businessman associated with manufacturing and financial institutions in Houston, Sharp also is a former Secretary of the Air Force.

Three new members elected to the board in 1975 were Richard E. Byrd of Berryville, Virginia, George Putnam of Manchester, Massachusetts, and Edgar T. Shannon of Charlottesville, Virginia. The new members have earned national reputations in the fields of business and agriculture, financial management, and higher education, respectively.

Staff

Mrs. Elizabeth R. Stubbs, assistant secretary to the Board of Trustees and administrative assistant to the treasurer, retired in 1975 after forty-five years of active service to Colonial Williamsburg.

Several key staff appointments during the year included the naming of William R. Slepin as treasurer, Richard L. Erb as general manager of the Williamsburg Inn, Brock W. Jobe as associate curator, and Miss Libby Hodges as supervisor of the flower section.

A total of seventeen Colonial Williamsburg employees were honored during 1975 for twenty-five years of service to the organization. Those recognized at the spring or fall meetings of the Board of Trustees were: Russell W. Bowman, Craft House inventories assistant; Mrs. Hazel M. Brown, exhibition buildings kitchen interpreter; Mrs. Mary Elizabeth T. Brown, Williamsburg Lodge pantrywoman; Mrs. Hallie D. Carpenter, costume shop supervisor; Mrs. Bertha M. Casselle, King's Arms Tavern pantrywoman; Mrs. Virginia C. Lemons, Williamsburg Inn inspectress; Richard D. Mahone, director of landscape construction and maintenance; Mrs. Mary S. McGriff, Williamsburg Lodge section housekeeper; and Horace A. Medley, building maintenance painter.

Also, E. Leroy Phillips, senior draftsman in architecture; Robert L. Stubbs, building maintenance project specialist; Mrs. Maggie Sutherlin, laundry finisher; George F. Temple, building maintenance carpenter; Miss Elizabeth M. Wallace, Williamsburg Lodge waitress; Herbert G. Wallace, recreational activities gardener; Mrs. Hazel P. Waltrip, laundry linen storeroom comptroller; and William H. Williams, Sr., office services mail clerk/chauffeur.

Cost of Operations

During 1975 the cost of all operations of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (presenting its educational and interpretive program, providing necessary services and facilities for the accommodation of the visiting public, carrying forward current works of historic preservation and improvements to existing properties, and maintaining its properties) amounted to $44,092,900.

Income during 1975 (derived from admission to the exhibition buildings, sales of Craft House and craft shop merchandise, books and films, the rental of residential and other properties in and near the Historic Area, and from the furnishing of facilities and services to the public and charitable contributions) amounted to $43,597,200.

The resulting deficit of $495,700 was offset by investment income of $3,487,500 from the permanent endowment of the Foundation. In spite of the deferral of many scheduled capital projects, the balance of funds remaining was applied to a number of capital improvements in the Historic Area and in the service facilities of the Foundation, as well as to the replacement of capital reserves of the Foundation used to fund deficits of earlier years.

Taxes

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, as a not for profit educational organization, is exempt from the payment of federal income taxes in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (with the exception

of net income derived from the operation of the Williamsburg Inn, the Williamsburg Lodge, The Motor House, the Cascades Restaurant, the Cafeteria, the Ham Shop, and the Williamsburg Theatre, which is taxable to the same extent as that of any other such business enterprise). The organization, further, is classified as a publicly supported foundation, in accordance with Section 509(a)(2) of the Code. Gifts and contributions made to the Foundation are tax deductible.

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation paid real estate taxes to the city of Williamsburg on all properties it owned with the exception of the major exhibition buildings (the Capitol, Governor's Palace, Raleigh Tavern, Wythe House, Peyton Randolph House, Wetherburn's Tavern, James Geddy House and Shop, Brush-Everard House, Gaol, Powder Magazine, and the Courthouse of 1770), the Information Center, the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection, Market Square, and Palace Green, all of which are exempt under Virginia law.

Taxes paid to the city of Williamsburg during the year of $362,746 amounted to 28.6 percent of all real estate taxes collected in the city in 1975. Taxes paid to the adjoining counties of James City and York on properties subject to prevailing real estate taxes totaled $38,526 for the year.

Audits

The books of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation are audited annually. Auditors of the independent public accounting firm of Coopers & Lybrand reported that in 1975, in their opinion, proper procedures were used in recording the financial transactions of the Foundation.

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO MANY GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS

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LANDSCAPE: Page 14, *A View of the Town of York from the River,* by a British naval officer, Mariners Museum.

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