

Colonial Williamsburg News

INFORMATION ABOUT COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG PEOPLE AND PROGRAMS SEPTEMBER 23, 2008 Online at http://intranet/information\_centers/news/ic\_news.htm

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### Message from the President

# Foundation increases its efforts to go green

At Colonial Williamsburg environmental sustainability is not a new concept; environmentally responsible operations and environmental stewardship have been elements of its practice for years. It is a value inherited from the founders of the restoration and has been evidenced



over the years by the Foundation's efforts to preserve green space in and around the Historic Area – in part because that helps create the illusion for our guests that they're entering another time and place, but also in part because it's the right thing to do for the environment of the Williamsburg area.

Like our 18th-century predecessors, we compost plant and animal waste. The Foundation's entire bus fleet has been converted from diesel-fueled buses to clean, natural gas-powered vehicles. And, two years ago the Foundation dedicated a conservation easement protecting in perpetuity 230 acres of forests and wetlands along the primary access route to the Visitor Center.

We are increasing our efforts with respect to energy conservation, recycling and the use of renewable resources. Committees and individuals are working to find cost-effective ways to increase recycling, reduce waste, employ energy-efficient alternative products and alter our everyday practices to reduce the impact of our operations on the environment.

Thank you in advance for your support of and participation in these efforts.

See updates on these initiatives on page 2.

#### Freedom Walk remembers the events of September 11





Colonial Williamsburg joined the Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance to sponsor the Colonial winnamsburg joined the Greater winnamsburg Chamber and Fourism Annance to sponsor the second annual Freedom Walk and 9/11 Remembrance on Thursday, Sept. 11. (Photo top left) The public marched with Colonial Williamsburg's Fifes & Drums, a Joint Color Guard, 1st Responder Colors, Military/Ist Responder Senior Officials and the Boy Scouts Merchants Square to the Capitol on Duke of Gloucester Street. At the Capitol, a ceremony was held to remember the events of September 11, 2001. The ceremony featured remarks from Colonial Williamsburg President Colin G. Campbell (photo top right). (Bottom photo) Navy Lt. Cmdr. Karl Lindblad addressed the crowd during the ceremony.



# Measuring America's 400th Anniversary: Economic impact study shows Jamestown commemoration produced outstanding results

An economic impact study of Jamestown's 400th anniversary shows the commemoration not only made history, it made dollars and cents.

Richmond-based Conducted by Chmura Economics and Analytics, the study shows the anniversary of America's first permanent English settlement created nearly 21,000 jobs in Virginia, generated \$1.2 billion in sales for state businesses, produced more than \$28 million in state and local tax revenues, and increased awareness of Jamestown through more than 12 billion Ú.S. media impressions. The study was commissioned by Jamestown 2007, a sub-agency of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation that coordinated the Commonwealth of Virginia's role in the commemoration.

"These results, based on economic impact in Virginia only, reflect the commemoration's outstanding success," said State Sen. Thomas K. Norment Jr., co-chair of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. "I have confidence that infrastructure improvements made in preparation for the anniversary and the Commonwealth's increased visibility as a result of the commemoration will benefit Virginians for years to come."

"The economic impact of the com-memoration is gratifying," Norment said, "but we also are proud of the significant educational benefits not measured by the study. America's 400th Anniversary served as a platform for the story of the 'new'

Jamestown. Americans were very receptive to this richer, more compelling and more inclusive version of history based on recent scholarship and exciting archaeological finds. This high level of success was achieved through partnerships involving institutions and groups in the Historic Triangle and across the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond."

Chmura Economics measured spending at commemoration-related events as well as the economic benefits of infrastructure improvements related to the anniversary. The executive summary of the study is available online at www.americas400thanniversary.com/ EconomicImpactSummary. Jamestown 2007 invested approximately \$45 million, about a fourth of which came from sponsorships, in the commemoration. Additional investments were made by communities and organizations throughout Virginia.

The Virginia General Assembly established a commemoration planning organization in 1996, and three goals were established: increase tourism, enhance educational awareness of Jamestown and Virginia, and provide business opportunities. The 400th anniversary of Jamestown

was commemorated through a series of events and programs that began in May 2006 and continued into 2007.

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation was proud to be a Founding Colony Sponsor of this 18-month commemoration, providing support in several capacities, including new programming, new museums, a regional welcome center, and new and ex-

panded lodging and conference facilities. To bring to life the series of major events and scenes that occurred in Williamsburg in revolutionary times, the Foundation in 2006 launched the Revolutionary City program as part of its Education for Citizenship initiative, emphasizing the fundamental importance of citizen participation in a functioning democracy. The Revolutionary City program completes the timeline of events between the landing at Jamestown in 1607 and the Continental Army's victory at Yorktown in 1781.

Colonial Williamsburg's Visitor Center served as the official regional welcome center for the Historic Triangle in connection with the commemoration. Information about the historic sites of Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown was available at the center, as well as other regional attractions. Ticketing and lodging reservations services also were provided.

Colonial Williamsburg served as the of-ficial representative of Jamestown 2007 for the purpose of coordinating reservation for lodging, and Colonial Williamsburg's hotels were the official hotels and conference facilities of the commemoration. In keeping with these roles, a dramatic renovation, res toration and expansion of the Williamsburg Lodge and Conference Center were completed. A new 20,000 square-

foot fitness center, together with The Spa of Colonial Williamsburg, opened in 2007, providing an essential amenity for hotel guests and conferees. More than 10,000 room nights have been attributed to Jamestown 2007 gatherings in the confer-ence center. More than 2,100 America's 400th Anniversary Packages were sold in 2007 and represented 7,375 room nights and 5,893 guests.

The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum opened in February 2007 in its new home at the DeWitt Wallace site, bringing together for the first time the Foundation's outstanding collections as the new Museums of Colonial Williamsburg.

Colonial Williamsburg provided, among other things, satellite, sound, video and Internet services for Jamestown Livel, a pro-gram moderated by the Public Broadcasting Service's Gwen Ifill and webcast to students in 50 states and 13 countries studying exploration, diversity, and self-government. "The Official Guide to America's His-

toric Triangle," published by the Foundation, is a fine example of what was done in 2006 and before to support America's 400th anniversary

Colonial Williamsburg was with the Godspeed dockside as a participant in the Landing Party Festival that featured the signature Colonial Williamsburg Fifes and Drums Corps, live musical performances, family entertainment, and historical and cultural displays.



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# Environmental Stewardship

# Less Pain at the Pump: Electric trucks are here

The Foundation recently took delivery of three Miles Electric Trucks from a dealer in New Castle, Del. One truck will be used for extended testing by landscape maintenance and one each by Foundation and hospitality facilities maintenance crews.

These new all-electric trucks will replace older gasoline-powered vehicles that are more expensive to operate and maintain. After evaluating several environmentally friendly vehicles, the Miles truck was selected because it is closer in size and layout to a small gasoline-powered pickup truck and it can be equipped with a DMVissued license plate for operation on public streets that have maximum speeds up to 35 miles per hour, including those in the Historic Area. The electric truck's maximum speed of 25 mph and standard lights, seatbelts and other safety features qualify it to be licensed.

They can go 50-60 miles on a single charge, which takes about four to six hours. Recharging equipment is built into each truck, and it only needs to be plugged into a standard 110 volt outlet to recharge. Along with the savings in gas, maintenance costs are expected to be far lower than for a traditional vehicle because there are so few complicated moving parts. They have no pistons or valves, radiators, fuel systems, multispeed transmissions or air intakes, but do have heaters, windshield wipers and backup alarms. The beds of the electric trucks are small (4.5 feet by 7.5 feet), but they can carry up to 2,000 pounds. Although this type of electric truck can be purchased with air conditioning, the ones Colonial Williamsburg has acquired do not have it as it would have significantly increased the cost of each vehicle and reduced its range on a charge.

The three in service now will be oper-

# <image><image>

The Foundation recently took delivery of three Miles Electric Trucks for use in landscape and facilities maintenance. The trucks will replace older, less fuel efficient gas powered vehicles. The small truck's maximum speed is 25 miles per hour and meets requirements for street use. It can go 50-60 miles on a single standard 110 volt charge. Along with the savings in gas, maintenance costs are expected to be minimal. (Above) Colonial Williamsburg mason *Kirsten Crum* uses the electric truck for getting from job to job in the Historic Area.

ated on a test basis for the rest of the year and, if they prove successful, more will be ordered for early 2009 delivery. So, if you see one of our new electric trucks sporting "ALL ELECTRIC" and "ZERO EMISSIONS" legends as well as the Colonial Williamsburg logo, please give the driver a friendly wave and show your support for a better environment.

## The New Three Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

Recycling and green initiatives are alive and well at Colonial Williamsburg. Recently, the Foundation's recycling commit-

tee was revitalized and charged with bringing a fresh awareness to accomplishments and identifying additional opportunities to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Division representatives are meeting monthly to facilitate environmental stewardship across the Foundation and to reduce expenditures.

The committee members include Mark Wenger

(chairman), Chris Andrews, Mary Cottrill, Betsy Cridlin, Chris Ellis, Tory Gussman, Mike Hornby, Diane Schwarz and Susan Zarecky. The goals of the committee are to:



• Communicate practices to employees and guests; and

• Help departments develop recycling and stewardship programs.

The committee has compiled an impressive list of efforts that are already in place in divisions and departments throughout the Foundation. The recycling committee is challenging employees and depart-

ments to consider earth-friendly ways to modify the tasks and materials they use on a daily basis. Watch for additional information on ways to brush up on the new three R's – reduce, reuse and recycle.

#### Tips to Reduce, Reuse or Recycle

#### In the office

- Set the thermostat higher in the summer (76 degrees) and lower in the winter (68 degrees). Adjust it appropriately when you leave for days off.
- Turn lights off when out more than half an hour.
- Leave computers on but turn off printers and copiers when you leave the office.

#### In general

- Be conscious of the waste you produce and try to reduce it.
  - Don't print e-mails you can deal with electronically.
  - □ Circulate documents among staff instead of printing copies.
  - Print and copy documents using back and front.
- Use your own cup or mug for beverages rather than paper or plastic containers.
- Walk or use the CW bus system to get around the Foundation.
- Find new uses for old material. Advertise, someone else may have a use for them. (See Secretary's Tool Box on the Intranet.)



Howard Ames of mechanical operations and maintenance changes a fluorescent fixture from the old "T-12" to the new T-8 gear. The fixture upgrade is part of the energy-saving measures taken at the Franklin Street Office and Franklin Street Annex.

# Foundation team is charged with lowering energy costs

Last fall a team was created to find ways to reduce energy and utility costs. A major focus has been on reducing electricity consumption, which accounts for 60 percent of the Foundation's energy expenditures. Electricity charges for Colonial Williamsburg are expected to increase more than 25 percent this year as Dominion Virginia Power increases its fees. The team also is looking at ways to reduce other utilities, including water and natural gas, and how employees can help reduce the Foundation's energy bills.

the Foundation's energy bills. A significant project over the past few months involves replacing incandescent or halogen bulbs with highly efficient florescent lamps. The Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel & Suites, Governor's Inn, Franklin Street Offices, WILLIAMSBURG Revolutions and the Henry Street Shops common area in Merchants Square have been outfitted with high-efficiency light bulbs. Besides cutting electrical use directly, the new bulbs produce less heat, which reduces the need for air conditioning. As a further plus, the bulbs last much longer so maintenance ex-

penses are reduced.

In addition to the relamping project, the team has begun evaluating all of the major heating and air conditioning plants, automated systems that control heating and cooling, and working with vendors to assure all meters are registering correctly and subsequently recording the proper charges to the Foundation.

Team members are assessing energy use, where the Foundation can achieve the most significant reductions and what smaller initiatives can result in cost savings. They are developing a presentation to be given at division and department meetings to create general awareness as well as conservation ideas for targeted areas. Team members are: Kurt Reisweber (chairman), Chris Anderson, Lee Anderson, Larry Christian, Dave Coleman, Neil Ellwein, Tory Gussman, Bob Jeremiah, Clyde Kestner, Tom Peck, Kelli Mansel and Mark Wenger. Call or email any one of the team members to share ideas or get more information on the environmental stewardship initiatives under way.

#### Across The Foundation

#### "Tattoo" print presented to Colin Campbell



Photo by Penna Roge Photo by Penna Roger Members of the Tricorn Foundation, established in 2006 to provide scholar-ships for graduating seniors of Colonial Williamsburg's Fifes and Drums, presented a print of "Tattoo" to Colonial Williamsburg President Colin G. Campbell. The original painting of "Tattoo" was commissioned as part of the Fifes and Drums 50th anniversary. Those attending the presentation include (from left to right): Tim Sutphin, Colonial Williamsburg's director of historic events and a Tricorn Foundation board member; Colin; Mike Moyles, a Fife and Drums of Tricorn Foundation Bard member; Colin; Mike Moyles, a Fife and Drum alumnus and Tricorn Foundation Board member; and Greg Kyte, a Fife and Drum alumnus and Tricorn Foundation Board member. In addition to the print, the Tricorn Foundation also presented Colin with the 50th anniversary history book, "From the Road to Boston to the World Turned Upside Down," written by Bill Casterline.

# Garden, "Nature, Art & Science" tours offered at Bassett Hall

Enjoy the beauty and splendor of the 1940's gardens at Bassett Hall, the Williamsburg home of Colonial Williamsburg benefactors John D. Rockefeller Jr. and his wife Abby Aldrich Rockefeller

During a Bassett Hall Garden Tour, guests can enjoy a walk in the Rockefellers garden with an interpreter at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Sept. 25-Oct. 16. The tour presents a history of the garden, the Rockefellers' involvement in developing the garden and the garden's restoration.

The tour presents a history of the garden, the Rockefeller's involvement in developing the garden and the garden's restoration. The Rockefellers spent a few weeks at Bassett Hall in the spring and fall. The gar-den was timed to bloom during their visits

Arthur Shurcliff, landscape architect for Colonial Williamsburg, also is discussed on the tour, especially his involvement with landscapes in the Historic Area and Bassett Hall. The tour ends in front of the site of the Great Oak.

Nature, Art and Science explores the natural world with Mark Catesby, America's first environmentalist, portrayed by Colonial Williamsburg interpreter Robb Warren. The walking tour takes place at 11 a.m. on Mondays through Oct. 13. The tour meets at the Bassett Hall reception center.

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Mark Catesby, a self-taught botanist, accompanied his sister to Williamsburg in 1712 and began studying and painting the flora and fauna of Virginia. During a second trip to the colonies he travelled to the Carolinas, Florida and the Bahamas where he observed, documented and collected plant and animal specimens. He published his findings in "Natural History of Caro-lina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands between 1731 and 1734." It was the first published, fully illustrated book on the flora and fauna of North America.

A Colonial Williamsburg admissions ticket, Good Neighbor Card or museums ticket provides access to enjoy the Basset Hall tours. Both programs will be held weather permitting.

Want to go? A valid Colonial Williamsburg ID is needed.



Photos by Keith Johnson

Eighty-five Colonial Williamsburg employees volunteered during the United Way of Greater Williamsburg's Day of Caring on Sept. 10. The kick off took place in a carnival atmosphere at the Community Building on Boundary Street. Representatives from area companies enjoyed coffee and refreshments before taking off to project sites, including Avalon, Child Development Resources, the Girl Scout Camp, Heritage Humane Society and the Williamsburg Botanical Gardens-Freedom Park Project. In addition, Foundation employees had the opportunity to participate in a baby shower for Children's Home Society and food collection for FISH. More monkey business took place that evening with the closing event, which had a carnival theme. (Photo bottom left, left to right) *Ricky Williams, Audrey Christian, Dale Trowbridge, Sandra Wiggins-Elliott, Laura Viancour, Hunter Curry and Maggine Chadwick* (left to right) worked at Avalon. They were some of the Colonial Williamse appleaves pholes on us with write a the backet are worked and the holes of the backet and the backet of t Williamsburg employees helping out with various projects at the battered women's shelter. (Photo bottom right) Kurt Reisweber hauled mulch for the landscapers.



WHAT'S HAPPENING



Colonial William

Darin Tschopp, ox driver and interpreter, Colonial Williamsburg, will be one of the Foundation employees presenting at the symposium, "Oxen in the Old and New Worlds."

# CW to host three-day oxen symposium in October

#### By Michael E. Crandol

Public Affairs Editorial Assistant

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation will host its first symposium on oxen and their crucial role as beasts of burden through the centuries. "Oxen in the Old and New Worlds," consisting of lectures, demonstrations and panel discussions by oxen experts from America and Great Britain, will take place Oct. 30 – Nov. 1.

The program is made possible in part through the generosity of Ronald R. and Janet S. Fox of Piqua, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Fox are members of Colonial Williamsburg's Goodwin Society of donors and have been visiting Colonial Williamsburg since the 1970s. Mr. Fox's longstanding interest in animals and livestock inspired the couple to help fund this event.

Öxen have long been a key feature of Colonial Williamsburg's Rare Breeds program, which represents the animals that would have been a part of everyday life in 18th century. The three-day symposium will examine the ways oxen were utilized in centuries past, as well as the practical applications of their use today.

Program highlights include:

- · A World View of Oxen. Paul Starkey of Reading, England, lectures on oxen in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas.
- "Fae Twal Tae Nae Owsen!" ("From Twelve to No Oxen!"). Bob Powell, principal museums officer for the Highland Council's Highland Museums, Scotland, discusses the use of oxen in the United Kingdom from circa 1750 to 1920.
- Health and Care of the Ox. Donald Collins, D.V.M., of Berwick, Maine, prea workshop at Colonial sents

- Williamsburg's Great Hopes Plantation. • Tillers International: As Seen Through the Eyes of Oxen, presented by Richard Rosenberg, executive director of Tillers International in Scotts, Mich.
- The History of Oxen in Nova Scotia, presented by Barry Hiltz of Ross Farm in New Ross, Nova Scotia.
- Yokes and Oxen Equipment, Tim Huppe of Farmington, New Hampshire. Twentieth-Century Farming with Oxen,
- presented by Roby Flory, intern program coordinator, and Peter Watson, director of Howell Living History Farm, Mercer County Park Commission, Trenton, N. J.
- Oxen: Past, Present and Future, Drew Conroy, author, ox trainer and mentor, Berwick, Maine. Colonial Williamsburg experts who will
- participate in this program include:
- Ed Schultz, supervisor of rural trades, Colonial Williamsburg; and
- Darin Tschopp, ox driver and interpreter, Colonial Williamsburg.

Live workshops, demonstrations with Colonial Williamsburg's rare breed oxen and interactive discussion panels complete the three-day event. "Oxen in the New and Old Worlds" is open to the public for a registration fee of \$195 per person, with optional dinner tickets for \$55 per person. Colonial Williamsburg employees receive a 50 percent discount on the registration fee. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-603-0948, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, contact Deborah Chapman at (757) 220-7255 or go online to www.history.org/conted.

# Good Health Matters

#### Heart Attack

#### Do you know the symptoms and warning signs? Some heart attacks are sudden and intense, where no one doubts what is happening. But most heart attacks start slowly, with mild pain or discomfort. Often

people affected aren't sure what's wrong and wait too long before getting help. Here are some signs that can mean a heart attack is happening: · Chest discomfort - Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the

- chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.
- Discomfort in other areas of the upper body Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach
- · Shortness of breath May occur with or without chest discomfort.
- Other signs These may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

If you or someone you are with experiences chest discomfort, especially combined with one or more of the other signs, don't wait longer than five minutes before calling for help. Call 9-1-1. Emergency medical services staff can begin treatment when they arrive, up to an hour sooner than if someone gets to the hospital by car.

<u>Guest Guideposts</u>

# What is the Historic Triangle?

(Editor's Note: This is a recurring column to help employees continuously improve our guests' experience. All employees can assist guests in some way. This column provides answers to common questions. Employees are invited to cut this feature out and keep it for future use.)

#### Jamestown, the 17th-century Capital

The story of Williamsburg, the capital of 18th-century Virginia, really began at 17th-century Jamestown. For more than 90 years after the first English adventurers set foot on Virginia soil, Jamestown served as the seat of government and administrative center of England's largest colony in North America.

When the statehouse burned for the fourth time in 1698, many Virginians, including the royal governor, Francis Nicholson, seized on the accident as an opportunity to move the capital. Several prospective sites were considered. After some debate, members of the House of Burgesses chose an up-and-coming place known as Middle Plantation.

Middle Plantation had been founded in the early 17th century as the outpost to defend against Indian attacks. In 1677, following Bacon's Rebellion, when amestown was burned to the ground, Middle Plantation served as a substitute capital. Begun in 1699, the new city was named Williamsburg in honor of the King of England, William III.

#### The Williamsburg Community

Unlike Jamestown, Williamsburg did not remain a small, undeveloped ad-ministrative center. Partly because the colony's growth continued throughout the 18th century and partly because economic forces reshaped Virginia society, Williamsburg fulfilled the expectations of its founders and kept pace with the growing colony.

At first, the business of government attracted the nucleus of Williamsburg's urban population. As the century pro-gressed, more stores were opened to

Marketplace

FOR SALE: 14 kt white gold ring, size 5. \$100. CALL: Kim

FOR SALE: Gemeinhardt piccolo. Silver plated, like new. \$300. CALL: Terry at 253-0347.

FOR SALE: KitchenAid stand mixer, two mixing bowls, two mixing paddles, a dough hook, a wire wisk and a splash shield. Also rotor, slicer, shedder attachment. \$200 firm. CALL: (757) 229-1187.

FOR SALE: 2007 Fleetwood Cheyenne Pop-Up Trailer, like new; A/C; ref; stove; sink; sleeps 6. (King; double, and pull outs); Outside storage; easy tow. \$6,995. CALL: 757-503-4430

FOR SALE: New Kodak PH-40 Easy Share printer dock complete with all cables and start-up supplies, for use with E. Share digital camera. \$120. CALL: Lynne or Bill 345-5665.

FOR SALE: 1994 Cadillac Deville, 131K, asking \$3,500. Green with cream vinyl top, digital remote starter. Premium sound system with amps included, new radiator. Beige leather interior, white wall tires, tinted windows. A must see, Can e-mail photos on request, CALL: (757) 256-5801

FOR SALE: Sony CD player. Holds 50 discs, single play. Several years old but limited use. I more than \$200. Asking \$140. CALL: Donald Kline, 565

FOR RENT: 2-story, 2-bedroom, 11/2 bath condo located off For RENT 2-story 2-bettroom, Pripart condo incated on Jamestown Road just past Ironbound Road in small 12-unit complex. Rent for 1-year lease is 875/month with 1 month's rent as deposit. A \$25 application fee and credit verification required. Unit available Sept. 1. For more info call Hunter (757) 652-3182 or (757) 727-9789.

Deadline for Marketylan text is Monday at noon one week prior to publication. Ad-matinehade employe's name and personal telephone samher. Ad na ma for ngb to no onexestive issues. If you would like your ad to run again, phase sensities it. Sashut ad an persone, through tenerifies and its 600-1132, face to 220-7702 or e-mailsn Penna Rogers at proper (@ayl.org

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provide merchandise to residents and out-of-town shoppers. The townspeople engaged in these activities needed to be housed and provided with foodstuffs that they didn't grow themselves. Carpenters and masons moved to town to build houses and shops. Bakers, tailors and barbers settled here to serve both visitors and townspeople. By the eve of the American Revolution, nearly 2,000 men, women and children—roughly half white, half black-lived in the growing capital city. The 18th-century capital of Virginia became Great Britain's largest and most populous colony.

#### Yorktown

The Town of York is located not far from Williamsburg on the banks of the York River. In 1691, Virginia's General Assembly, hoping to diversify the agricultural character of the colony, passed an act for the establishment of ports and towns. The assembly chose this land for one of its ports because of its proximity to a deep-water channel in the river and its con-nection to the Chesapeake Bay.

By the 1740s, the shipping industry at Yorktown made its mark on the development of the town as a port. By 1758, the population grew to approxi-mately 500 people, including craftsmen, merchants and shopkeepers associated with the shipping industry. Beginning in the 1750s, the wave of

growth in Yorktown slowed. The town retained an increasingly smaller share of the trade running through Virginia's waters. As the center of tobacco production shifted southwestward, the percentage of Virginia's tobacco crop exported from Yorktown declined. Yorktown's major role in history came

at the close of the American Revolution. On Oct. 19, 1781, following a nine-day bombardment, British forces in Yorktown under Lord Charles Cornwallis surrendered more than 8,000 soldiers and sailors to the combined American and French armies, commanded by General George Washington. This represented the close of the last major military action of the American Revolution, effectively granting independence to the American colonies following a six-and-a-half-year military struggle.

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