



Colonial Williamsburg

REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT

FOR THE YEAR 1955

*Report by the President
for the Year 1955*

EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY WILLIAMSBURG

WILLIAMSBURG was one of the most important ideological training grounds for the leaders of American independence. For 81 influential years (1699–1780) it was the capital of the Virginia Colony and a cultural and political center ranking with Boston, Newport, Philadelphia, Charleston and New York. Here George Washington, Patrick Henry, George Wythe, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason and other patriots helped shape the foundations of our government. It was the scene of Patrick Henry's Caesar-Brutus speech and his defiant Resolutions protesting the Stamp Act; George Mason's Virginia Declaration of Rights; the May 15, 1776, Resolution for Independence, which led directly to the historic July 4 decision; the pioneering Virginia Constitution, which served as a model for most other states; and the introduction of Jefferson's famous Statute for Religious Freedom.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG, INCORPORATED

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HECTOR ESCOBOSA	DR. H. M. STRYKER
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ex officio

WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER	KENNETH CHORLEY
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COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

IN 1926 MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., became interested in the restoration of eighteenth-century Williamsburg. All funds for this restoration project have been his personal gifts.

The purpose of Colonial Williamsburg, in the words of the Board of Trustees, is “to re-create accurately the environment of the men and women of eighteenth-century Williamsburg and to bring about such an understanding of their lives and times that present and future generations may more vividly appreciate the contribution of these early Americans to the ideals and culture of our country.”

Two corporations have been organized to carry on the Restoration. Colonial Williamsburg, Incorporated, serves the historical and educational purposes of the organization, and holds title to properties within the historic area. Williamsburg Restoration, Incorporated, is a business organization and holds title to business properties outside the historic area. The term “Colonial Williamsburg” is the institutional name used to define the entire project and includes both corporations.

“That the future may learn from the past”



This Town Crier's bell, symbol of the people's vigil, commemorates the presentation of The Williamsburg Award to the Rt. Hon. Sir Winston S. Churchill, K.G., O.M., C.H., M.P., for his unexampled contribution in our time to the historic struggle of men to live free and self-respecting in a just society.

Colonial Williamsburg

REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT FOR THE YEAR 1955

ACCORDING to our present calculations, the Restoration will be visited annually by at least one million people by 1960. We estimate that the total number who have come to it thus far is in excess of eight million people. The magnitude of our responsibility and the diversity of our problems are suggested by these statistics. They encourage, at this time, a re-examination of the nature of our task.

The purpose of an historical preservation, such as Colonial Williamsburg, is to communicate the lessons of history in order that the present and future may learn from the past.

In doing this, historical preservations have a great advantage over the schoolroom or the library in that they provide, or should provide, a more dynamic form of communication. They have at their command a fascinating tool of instruction—a mechanism for breathing life into the chronicles of by-gone human experience. At their disposal is the actual “scene and witness of human adventures and events.”

To present an authentic environment in which modern-day people can lose themselves and recapture the spirit of another time, an historical preservation must know itself. Without a full

understanding of itself, public understanding is impossible. Its life blood, therefore, is research.

Finally, of course, an historical preservation must be presented in such a way that its true meaning will be perceived. A bridge of public understanding must be built between the past and the present. The value of any historical preservation will be greatly influenced by the scholarship, discernment and eloquence of its presentation and interpretation.

The task which we have undertaken at Colonial Williamsburg is not only the immense and basic physical task of restoring the eighteenth-century buildings—almost 100 in number—which had survived for some two centuries; reconstructing several hundred more on their original foundations; restoring some 75 acres of gardens and greens; and displacing over 600 modern buildings so this work could be done. It also includes the very great responsibility of accurately interpreting the past to the present and of protecting the physical Restoration from all distracting intrusions of the twentieth century which may destroy or weaken its message. This last duty becomes the more challenging as more Americans and others turn to Colonial Williamsburg for inspiration.

Looking back over 1955 we can report major developments in all of these diverse areas of responsibility. The vast amount of work that goes on behind the scenes prevents a report on all activities. Following, however, are some of the highlights of the year:

THE WILLIAMSBURG AWARD

Late in the year at ceremonies at The Drapers Hall, London, Sir Winston Churchill became the first recipient of The Williamsburg Award, which was established by the Trustees as a means of

reminding living Americans, and others, that "there are today, as there were yesterday, vigorous, courageous and eloquent leaders . . . in the historic struggle of men to live free and self-respecting in a just society."

The Williamsburg Award was announced by the Board on October 17, 1955. It has been described in these words:

As part of its program to bring new strength in our time to the belief in human liberty and the dignity of the individual which made Williamsburg and its leaders a moving force in eighteenth-century America, Colonial Williamsburg has established The Williamsburg Award.

The Award will be made, as occasion warrants, to a person who in the course of contemporary events has made an outstanding contribution to the historic struggle of men to live free and self-respecting in a just society. If circumstances require, it may be made jointly to two or more persons. It will carry an honorarium of \$10,000 and an emblematic Town Crier's bell.

Clear and eminent achievement shall be the only criterion for eligibility. Recipients may be natives of any land, reside in any country, work at any occupation, be members of any race.

The Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg hope that The Williamsburg Award will serve not only as an honor to the recipients, but also as an encouragement to men and women everywhere to seek liberty and justice for themselves and all men. The purpose of the Award is to serve as a continual reminder that there are today, as there were yesterday, vigorous, courageous and eloquent leaders.

The Williamsburg Award—a salute across time—was established to aid in interpreting the Williamsburg past to the living present.

Sir Winston Churchill was chosen unanimously by the Trustees. As the President of the United States wrote in a message to Winthrop Rockefeller, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, "It is most fitting that the first Williamsburg Award should be made to Sir Winston Churchill. . . . The cause of freedom was the cause of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Patrick Henry and others

who once walked the streets of the historic capital. In our time, no man has given more to that cause than Sir Winston.”

The Award was formally presented to Sir Winston in London on December 7 at a dinner attended by leaders of Britain, the Ambassadors of a score of nations—among them the United States Ambassador—and the Trustees of Colonial Williamsburg. The effect of the Award was not only to illuminate the meaning of eighteenth-century Williamsburg but to serve also as a warmly-welcomed act of Anglo-American friendship.

The official *Proceedings* of the presentation of the first Williamsburg Award are being published.

PRELUDE TO AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE

For some years now, Colonial Williamsburg has been drawing public attention to the significant events which took place in eighteenth-century Williamsburg between May 15 and July 4, 1776, and which were a Prelude to American Independence.

It was on May 15, 1776, that the Virginia Convention of Delegates, meeting in Williamsburg, passed, without a dissenting vote, the Virginia Resolution for American Independence, a document which led directly to the Declaration of Independence. It was on June 12, that the Virginia Convention passed, again unanimously, the Virginia Declaration of Rights which later became the basis for the Federal Bill of Rights—the first ten amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

The fact that May 15 fell on a Sunday in 1955 was a reminder that perhaps the most original of all the great political doctrines America has given the world was the principle of religious freedom. In Williamsburg, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason and

James Madison played important roles in its formulation, as had Roger Williams in Rhode Island and others elsewhere in the colonies. It first became an accepted political principle with the adoption of the Virginia Declaration of Rights. Sixteen years later it was written into the Constitution of the United States and for the first time in the long history of mankind, complete freedom of religion was guaranteed by a national state.

On May 15, 1955, as part of a commemoration of the American concept of religious freedom, Dr. Grayson Kirk, President of Columbia University, delivered an address at the reconstructed Capitol. Broadcast around the world, it reached behind the Iron and Bamboo Curtains. Dr. Dumas Malone, celebrated historian and Jeffersonian scholar, read Thomas Jefferson's Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom. The Westminster Choir provided a choral setting. The ceremonies were supported by all faiths. Churchmen, and leaders of church and lay organizations, individual citizens and government officials, including the President of the United States, gave their support to the commemoration.

THE DEMOCRACY WORKSHOP

On February 19, 1955, Dr. Vannevar Bush spoke on a modern "Bill of Responsibilities" to the fifth annual Democracy Workshop, sponsored by Colonial Williamsburg and the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Bush told the assembly, which included student winners of the Voice of Democracy contest from 33 states, brought to Williamsburg for a three-day seminar on the American Bill of Rights, that preservation of our liberties and the maintenance of the Bill of Rights would depend on a "natural aristocracy" composed of people "who have the intelligence and

diligence to understand, the courage to speak, and the character to lead." Howland Sargeant, President of the American Committee for Liberation from Bolshevism, and Cabell Phillips, of the *New York Times*, were moderators. Guest authorities included David J. Mays, Douglass Adair, W. Warner Moss and Kerry Smith.

A NEW INFORMATION CENTER DEVELOPMENT

During the summer of 1955, ground was broken for a new Information Center. North of the restored area, the 40-acre development will provide not only information and historical orientation facilities, but also additional, urgently required visitor accommodations.

Shortly after the war it became evident that if visitors to Williamsburg were to be provided a truly meaningful experience, effective means must be found to acquaint them first with Williamsburg's place in history and its contributions to the culture and ideals of our country. It was seen as a place where "twentieth-century minds and spirits might be better prepared to hear and understand the message of this eighteenth-century capital city of the Crown Colony of Virginia."

A temporary Reception Center was first built on an experimental basis. Here, in addition to visitors from all over the country, thousands of school groups, members of the armed forces and foreign visitors were introduced to Williamsburg and its historic role through a variety of special programs, films and lectures.

But in the seven years since that Reception Center was built visitation to Williamsburg has doubled and the scope and physical dimensions of the Restoration have increased greatly. During

1955 three quarters of a million people visited Williamsburg. Something more was required.

The new Information Center, being built in a wooded tract northeast of the Governor's Palace, is within walking distance of the restored area. The location takes advantage of scenic approaches to Williamsburg but is far enough removed from the historic area to alleviate the traffic problem. One of the purposes of the development is to avoid traffic congestion in the historic area by providing ample parking space and encouraging use of free bus transportation to, from and through the restored area. This is an enlargement of an experiment started four years ago which provides free bus transportation through the restored area and which to date has served some 3,000,000 visitors.

The new Information Center building will contain twin 250-seat theatres in which an historical motion picture will be projected on large screens. The half-hour film will be shown admission-free in both theatres throughout the day. It will be produced especially for the new Information Center and will take advantage of wide-screen techniques which incorporate advanced principles of optics and stereophonic sound.

WILLIAMSBURG MOTOR HOUSE

A quarter mile to the rear of the Information Center, and separated by a broad green mall, will be a motor hotel. To be known as the Williamsburg Motor House, it will be located in a pine grove a quarter mile from the nearest highway, will be built around a spacious green about the size of the Governor's Palace Green and will include plentiful public space, lounges, meeting rooms, swimming pools and a cafeteria. The cafeteria will also permit serving hot meals to school groups at moderate prices.

Colonial Williamsburg has, from an early date, taken the initiative in providing attractive facilities for visitors. Others have been encouraged to do the same and the Williamsburg area is notable for its attractive accommodations.

SCHOOL DORMITORIES

Two dormitories to accommodate visiting school groups at minimum rates are planned as an important part of the new Information Center development. A large and continuing increase in student visitation is expected in the future. In the past two years the Colonial Williamsburg school program has attracted over 100,000 student visitors from 2,200 schools throughout the country.

PROTECTING THE RESTORED AREA

Two major steps were taken in 1955 to protect the restored area against intrusion of the present.

To relieve congestion on the historic Duke of Gloucester Street, and to provide space for business establishments serving the growing Williamsburg community, a Williamsburg Shopping Center with adequate parking facilities was built by Williamsburg Restoration, Incorporated, on a 22-acre tract, convenient to the community and northwest of the restored area.

Additional properties were purchased primarily for protection purposes. During the last three years alone, Colonial Williamsburg has spent over \$2,000,000 on the development and purchase of properties to protect the environs of the restored area and the City of Williamsburg from possible inharmonious intrusions and to preserve the scenic attractiveness of outlying areas.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE SITE

During 1955, Colonial Williamsburg leased from Mrs. Virginia B. Haughwout the historic *Virginia Gazette* site on Duke of Gloucester Street. The *Virginia Gazette* Office will be reconstructed as it appeared when it housed one of colonial America's most influential newspapers, the columns of which chronicled the American Revolution. It was here that George Washington's first official report was published.

The newspaper office will be reconstructed on its original foundations, duplicating the shop of William Parks, founder of the Virginia Colony's first newspaper in 1736. In newspaper annals, Parks is ranked with Benjamin Franklin, John Peter Zenger and William Bradford. The historic Virginia Resolution for American Independence, the Virginia Declaration of Rights, Jefferson's Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom, the news of the Battle of Lexington, and copies of the text of the Declaration of Independence were all published here.

The *Gazette* Office will be exhibited as an operating colonial printing establishment in which skilled craftsmen will work the hand-operated presses, printing on handmade paper as was done in the colonial era.

THE GOLDEN BALL

A new craft shop, a silversmith's shop, was opened in July. Located on the north side of Duke of Gloucester Street, adjacent to the Margaret Hunter Shop, the Golden Ball was originally the shop of James Craig. A colonial jeweler and silversmith, Craig operated the shop from 1765 until late 1779.

Silversmiths in eighteenth-century Virginia did the major part of their business in retailing imported English silver which was considered more fashionable than custom-made American silver. In the show cases of the Golden Ball may be seen a collection of fine English silver, representative of silver sold in Virginia during this period. Carefully assembled on the basis of contemporary advertisements in Williamsburg newspapers, and on other documentary evidence, most of these pieces were made by silversmiths known to have sold to Virginia silversmiths. Also on display is a variety of jewelry similar to that described in colonial silversmiths' advertisements in the *Virginia Gazette*.

James Craig, in the custom of silversmiths of the day, employed a clock- and- watchmaker. The watchmaker's workroom of the Golden Ball, accordingly, has been furnished with an outstanding collection of watches. This unusual collection was donated by Mr. Edward P. Hamilton of Milton, Massachusetts. It shows watchmaking progress from the Renaissance until 1800. Authentic watchmakers' tools and several fine old clocks are also on display.

The silversmith's workshop is equipped with a forge reconstructed from an eighteenth-century design. One of the eighteenth-century anvils was used by Paul Revere and was given to Colonial Williamsburg by Mrs. Francis P. Garvan of New York City.

In this working craft shop, the Colonial Williamsburg Master Silversmith melts silver in crucibles, pours it into molds, hammers the blocks of silver into sheets, and then hand-forges, raises or seams the metal into articles of eighteenth-century design. It was in this manner that he made the Town Crier's bell, symbol of the Williamsburg Award, which was presented to Sir Winston Churchill.

EVENING CRAFT SHOP TOURS

The Golden Ball is added to the 12 authentic working craft shops which continue to be a major attraction to visitors. The popularity of these shops has led to the inauguration of night tours which have proved highly successful. Designed as a visitor-participation activity, they are conducted on an informal basis. Led by costumed craftsmen, visitors carry lighted lanterns and are permitted to examine in detail the working tools and furnishings of the different shops as well as to gain special information on their particular interests.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

Among the distinguished visitors to Williamsburg during the year were the Chief Justice and other Justices of the Supreme Court, members of the Cabinet, college presidents, generals and admirals, scholars and historians, churchmen and scientists. The roll was long and impressive.

Men and women from 25 nations were welcomed also. They came from every continent. Many of them were of high position—General Romulo of the Philippines; Prince Albert of Belgium; Ambassador Mehta of India; Defense Minister Tavani of Italy; Lord Goddard, the Lord Chief Justice of England; the 18 national ambassadors to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and many others.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S JOURNAL

A generous gift from Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., made it possible for Colonial Williamsburg to purchase in May 1955 one of the rarest publications in American history—a first edition of

The Journal of Major George Washington, Sent by the Hon. Robert Dinwiddie . . . to the Commandant of the French Forces in Ohio. Washington's first publication, it was printed by William Hunter in Williamsburg in 1754.

This Journal describes Washington's journey in 1753 to survey the French outposts in the Ohio Valley and to warn the French commander that they were encroaching on land claimed by England. This first official mission of Washington, which began and ended in Williamsburg, can be said to have launched his career. Washington's description of conditions on the frontier and his report of the French commander's refusal to withdraw so impressed the colonial Governor Dinwiddie that he directed Washington to write a report which could be presented to the Governor's Council.

One of the important results of the Journal was that it awakened the nation to a sense of impending danger from the expansion of the French. Historians rate it one of the most interesting personal records that we have of the first President. Only eight of the first editions are in existence—six of them in libraries and museums, and one in private hands. The last occasion on which a copy of the Journal was offered for sale in the United States was in 1880.

RESEARCH

During 1955 the Colonial Williamsburg research operation was expanded substantially, and additional research projects in a number of fields were commenced or enlarged. Among the areas singled out for special investigation were social, cultural and economic history, the decorative arts, crafts, and the graphic

arts. Extensive microfilm work was carried on and a concerted effort was made to expand the steadily growing collection of eighteenth-century reference materials. An institutional oral history program was also commenced.

PUBLICATIONS

Among the books, pamphlets, broadsides, or manuals produced or revised during the year were: BOOKS—*Colonial Williamsburg Official Guidebook and Map, Revised Edition*; *The Printer in Eighteenth-Century Williamsburg*; TEACHERS' MANUALS—*Williamsburg Restored*; *Independence in the Making*; *Cooking in Colonial Days—A Williamsburg Kitchen*; *Decision at Williamsburg*; PAMPHLETS—*Religious Liberty, Man's Link to Man*, by Dr. Grayson L. Kirk; BROADSIDES—*Washington in Williamsburg*; *Jefferson in Williamsburg*; *The Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom*; *Patrick Henry in Williamsburg*; *George Mason and the Virginia Declaration of Rights*; *Victory!* (commemorating the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown); and *Christmas in Williamsburg*.

FILMSTRIPS

Filmstrips, accompanied by explanatory text, have proved an effective means of presenting the message of eighteenth-century Williamsburg to school and adult groups throughout the country. Historical filmstrips developed during 1955 included: *Independence in the Making*; *Cooking in Colonial Days*; *Making A Living in Colonial Virginia*; *A Virginia Plantation*.

LECTURES

In response to strong public demand, five new illustrated lectures were added to the programs given nightly at the

Reception Center: *What Is Virginia Colonial Architecture?*; *Seeing Williamsburg Antiques*; *Williamsburg Revisited*; *Excavating Williamsburg's Past*; and *Eighteenth-Century Fireplace Cookery*.

FORUMS AND SPECIAL GROUPS

The annual Antiques Forum and the annual Garden Symposium attracted record attendances. Both events were conducted in two sessions each in order to accommodate the heavy registration.

Special tours were conducted for military personnel who visited Williamsburg under a program sponsored by the Information and Education Branch of the Department of Defense. Visitors from other nations were welcomed with a program of lectures and special activities.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

In co-operation with the College, Colonial Williamsburg provided discussion leaders and tours for the Workshop on Early American Life and Culture, a summer course for elementary and secondary school teachers, and joined the College faculty in a series of 16 lectures on "Life and Arts of Colonial Virginia."

The Institute of Early American History and Culture, sponsored jointly by Colonial Williamsburg and the College of William and Mary, continued its programs of research and publication—including publication of the *William and Mary Quarterly*. The Institute published *Early American Science Needs and Opportunities for Study* by Whitfield J. Bell, Jr.; *The Birth of the Bill of Rights, 1776-1791* by Robert Allen Rutland; and *Thomas Jefferson's Notes on the State of Virginia* with an introduction and notes by William Peden.

The Institute's annual \$500 book prize was awarded to Gerald Stourzh for *Benjamin Franklin and American Foreign Policy*, published by the University of Chicago Press.

At the May meeting of the Council of the Institute, Lester J. Cappon, Acting Director, was elected Director of the Institute. Mr. Cappon, active in historical and archival circles, has had a long career of teaching, research and writing.

ABBY ALDRICH ROCKEFELLER FOLK ART COLLECTION

Construction was started on the building to house and exhibit the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection. The two-story brick building, to be located outside the restored area between the Williamsburg Inn and Lodge, will be of early nineteenth-century architecture and will contain nine galleries.

The Collection, one of the finest in the country, was given to Colonial Williamsburg by Mrs. Abby Aldrich Rockefeller in 1939. During the past year valuable additions have been made by the transfer to Williamsburg of 54 pieces, previously in the Collection, which were housed in the Museum of Modern Art and in The Metropolitan Museum of Art. This transfer was made possible by the generous co-operation of the Trustees of the two museums and Mr. David Rockefeller.

A complete catalogue of the Collection has been prepared and is in the process of publication.

OTHER CONSTRUCTION

In addition to the major building projects referred to previously, a great amount of other construction was completed during the year. This was of a "behind the scenes" nature, namely, facilities



A view of Waller Street.



SCHELL LEWIS
1956

necessary to the operation and care of the historic city. Such construction included curator's and merchandising warehouses, a dormitory for employees of the hotels, paint shops, a seasonal property warehouse, and parking areas.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Lending its wholehearted support to the community effort to build the Williamsburg Area Memorial Community Center, with its provisions for much needed educational and recreational facilities, Colonial Williamsburg contributed financial support and staff time. The previous year Colonial Williamsburg conveyed some four acres of land to the Trustees of the Center.

TAXES

In 1955 the real estate and the business license taxes paid by both corporations to the City of Williamsburg amounted to \$103,442, the real estate taxes accounting for approximately 40 per cent of the City's total tax receipts from such source.

As an educational non-profit corporation, Colonial Williamsburg, Incorporated, is exempt from the payment of income taxes. Only the property used for educational purposes is exempt from local taxes, namely: the Capitol, Palace, Raleigh Tavern, Brush-Everard and Wythe Houses, the Gaol and Magazine, the Ludwell-Paradise House, and the public greens. While the educational corporation does not pay taxes on these eight exhibition buildings and greens, it does pay taxes on the taverns, guest houses and residential property within the restored area, and on the Goodwin Building which is outside the restored area.

Williamsburg Restoration, Incorporated, is a business corporation and is taxed like any other business enterprise.

FINANCIAL

During 1955 Colonial Williamsburg, Incorporated, which carries out the historical and educational purposes of the Restoration and holds title to the properties within the designated historic area and to the Goodwin Building, had operating income amounting to \$1,519,246, exclusive of income from the securities in its General Capital Fund. Approximately half of the income came from exhibition building admissions. Operating expenses amounted to \$2,019,265. The excess of expenses over such income was therefore \$500,019.

A list of securities in the General Capital Fund of Colonial Williamsburg, Incorporated, as of December 31, 1955, will be found on the following page. The 1955 income from these securities in the General Capital Fund amounted to \$1,922,228. This was expended as follows:

Acquiring, reconstructing and restoring historic buildings.....	\$ 790,897
Purchase of antiques, furnishings and equipment.....	\$ 330,734
Other projects.....	\$ 300,578
Excess of expenses over income as shown above.....	\$ 500,019
Total.....	<u>\$1,922,228</u>

Securities in the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection Fund of Colonial Williamsburg, Incorporated, as of December 31, 1955, are also listed on the following page. The 1955 income from the securities in this Fund totaled \$54,511. Expenditures amounted to \$165,348.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG, INCORPORATED

GENERAL CAPITAL FUND

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1955

<i>Face Value or Number of Shares</i>		<i>Amortized Total Cost or Book Value</i>
\$6,906,000	U.S. Government obligations	\$6,895,101
38,750	The Chase Manhattan Bank	1,090,156
40,500	Consolidated Natural Gas Company	607,111
122,800	Ohio Oil Company	1,753,675
125,300	Socony Mobil Oil Company	2,765,741
127,425	Standard Oil Company of California	5,504,784
98,800	Standard Oil Company (Indiana)	2,045,731
108,458	Standard Oil Company (New Jersey)	5,134,058
	Accrued Interest Receivable	31,099
	Cash	510,126
	TOTAL	<u>\$26,337,582</u>

ABBY ALDRICH ROCKEFELLER FOLK ART

COLLECTION FUND

AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1955

\$340,000	U.S. Treasury Notes - B, 1 5/8, due May 15, 1957	\$339,814
9,500	Socony Mobil Oil Company	377,187
6,300	Standard Oil Company of California	325,664
2,600	Standard Oil Company (New Jersey)	297,862
	Accrued Interest Receivable	691
	Cash	115,089
	TOTAL	<u>\$1,456,307</u>

*Report
of
Auditors*

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG, INCORPORATED:

We report that, in connection with our examination of the accounts and financial statements of Colonial Williamsburg, Incorporated, as of December 31, 1955, we confirmed with the custodians the securities and cash shown in the above schedules and found them in agreement with the items recorded on the Corporation's books.

LYBRAND, ROSS BROS. & MONTGOMERY
Certified Public Accountants

New York, May 4, 1956

Williamsburg Restoration, Incorporated, is a business organization holding title to business properties outside the historic area. Since its expenses and charges totaled \$4,611,039 for the year and its gross income was \$4,280,653, the net operating loss for this corporation in 1955 was \$330,386. All of the stock of Williamsburg Restoration, Incorporated, is owned by Colonial Williamsburg, Incorporated.

The corporations' books of account are audited annually by the independent public accounting firms of Lybrand, Ross Brothers & Montgomery, and Horwath & Horwath. The accountants have reported that, in their opinion, the records properly reflect the financial transactions of the corporations.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the April meeting of the Board of Directors of Williamsburg Restoration, Incorporated, Henry C. Turner, Jr., was elected a Director. A graduate of Swarthmore College, Mr. Turner is President of the Turner Construction Company of New York City. He is active in allied building organizations, and is Vice President and Director of the New York Building Congress, Director of the Associated General Contractors of America, Director of the Commerce and Industry Association and the Regional Plan Association. He is also a Director of the Providence Trust Company, a Director of the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and a Trustee of the Committee for Economic Development.

THE FUTURE

The chief purpose of Colonial Williamsburg continues to be, as it has been from the beginning, to restore and reconstruct, with

painstaking accuracy, Williamsburg, the capital of the Virginia colony, and thus to create an authentic environment which can speak in its own way to the present. All of our activities are designed to advance this central aim. As we move ahead, our constant effort must be to deepen, through research, our own understanding of this historic place, the men and women who once were here and the nature of their lives and customs. We must continue to make more complete the Restoration itself. We must guard the restored area from needless intrusions or encroachments. And finally we must continually seek bridges of understanding between the present day inheritors of the American past and their inheritance.

It is a job of never-failing responsibility, challenge, diversity and satisfactions. We are strongly sustained by the unflagging support and interest of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and by the realization that millions of Americans and others are turning to Colonial Williamsburg today to refresh their spirits in a world torn by conflicting values.

KENNETH CHORLEY, *President*

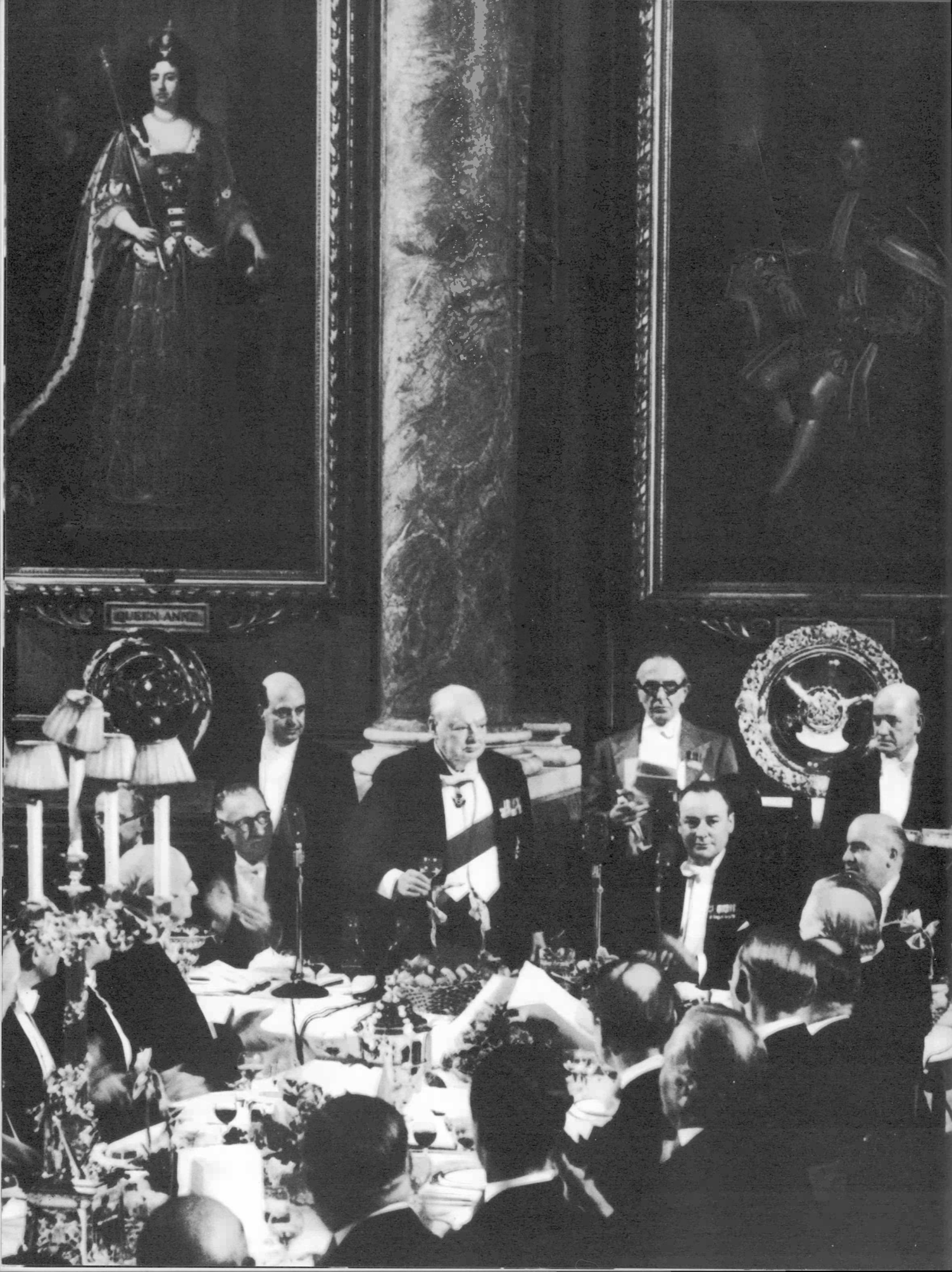
1955 . . .

A year of activity in many fields



*The Williamsburg Award Dinner, The Drapers Hall, London, December 7, 1955.
(Karsh of Ottawa)*







LEFT: *The Williamsburg Award Dinner, The Drapers Hall, London—The Right Honorable Sir Winston Churchill proposes a toast to the President of the United States.*

ABOVE: *Flanked by Mr. Winthrop Rockefeller (right) and Mr. Kenneth Chorley (left), Sir Winston rings the Town Crier's bell, the symbol of the Williamsburg Award.*



ABOVE: *Dr. Vannevar Bush addresses the Sixth Annual Democracy Workshop.*

RIGHT: *Dr. Grayson L. Kirk delivers the principal address commemorating the American concept of religious freedom at the Prelude to Independence ceremonies.*

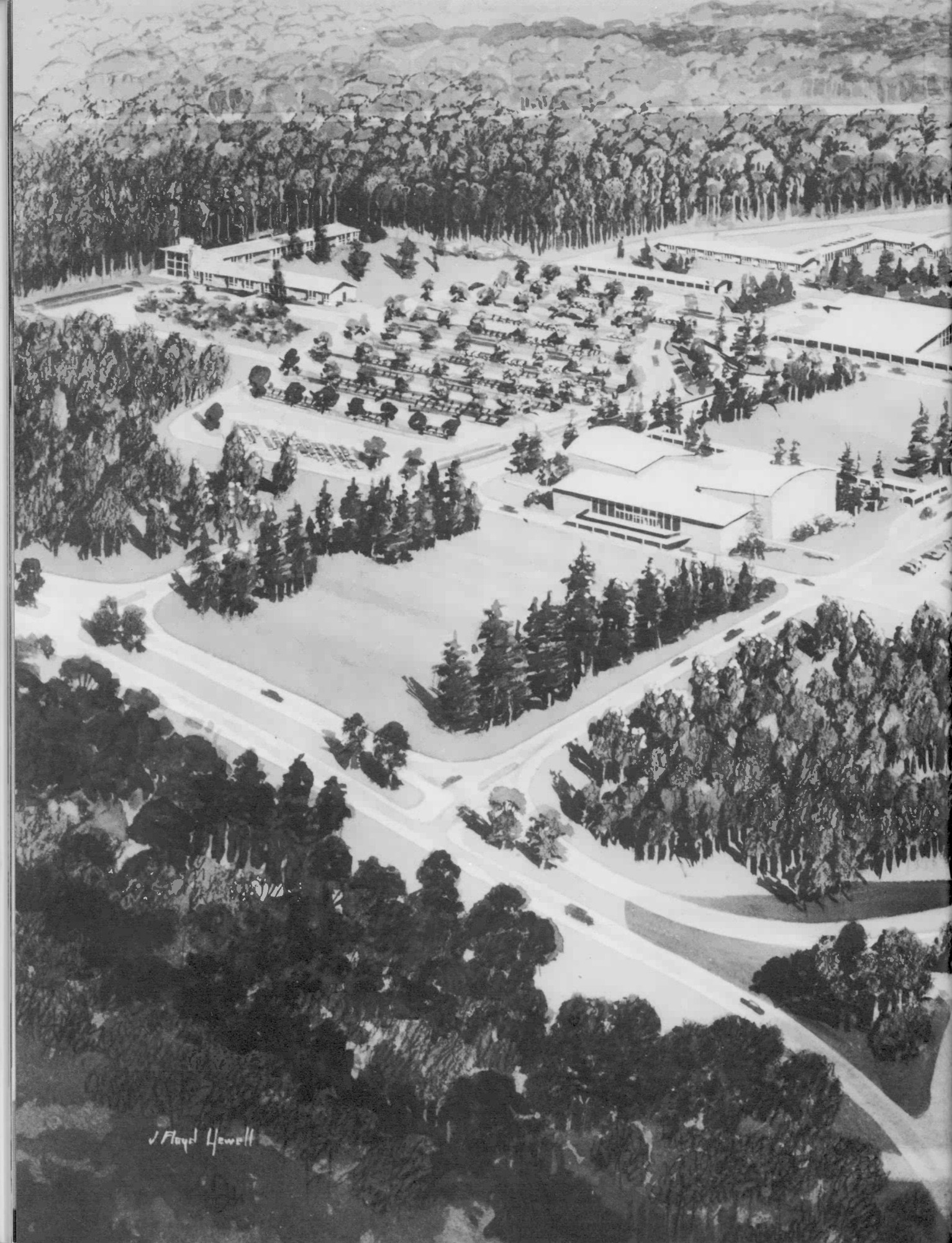






LEFT: *His Royal Highness Prince Albert of Liège in the supper room of the Governor's Palace.*

ABOVE: *The Lord Chief Justice of England, the Chief Justice of the United States and a United States Associate Justice sit in the Court Chamber of the Colonial Capitol. From left to right: Lord Chief Justice Goddard, Chief Justice Earl Warren, Mr. Justice Harold Burton.*



J. Floyd Hewell



A sketch of the new Information Center development.

*“ . . . a job of never-failing responsibility,
challenge, diversity and satisfactions.”*

*AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
TO MANY GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS*

WHILE the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg has been financed by gifts from Mr. Rockefeller, Jr., we have reason to be deeply grateful to many people who came to share his interest in the rebirth of the eighteenth-century capital city and who, over the years, have made substantial and significant gifts and loans.

Colonial Williamsburg welcomes loans and contributions not only for their own value but also as evidences of the interest of living Americans in the reconstruction of their heritage.

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