



The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

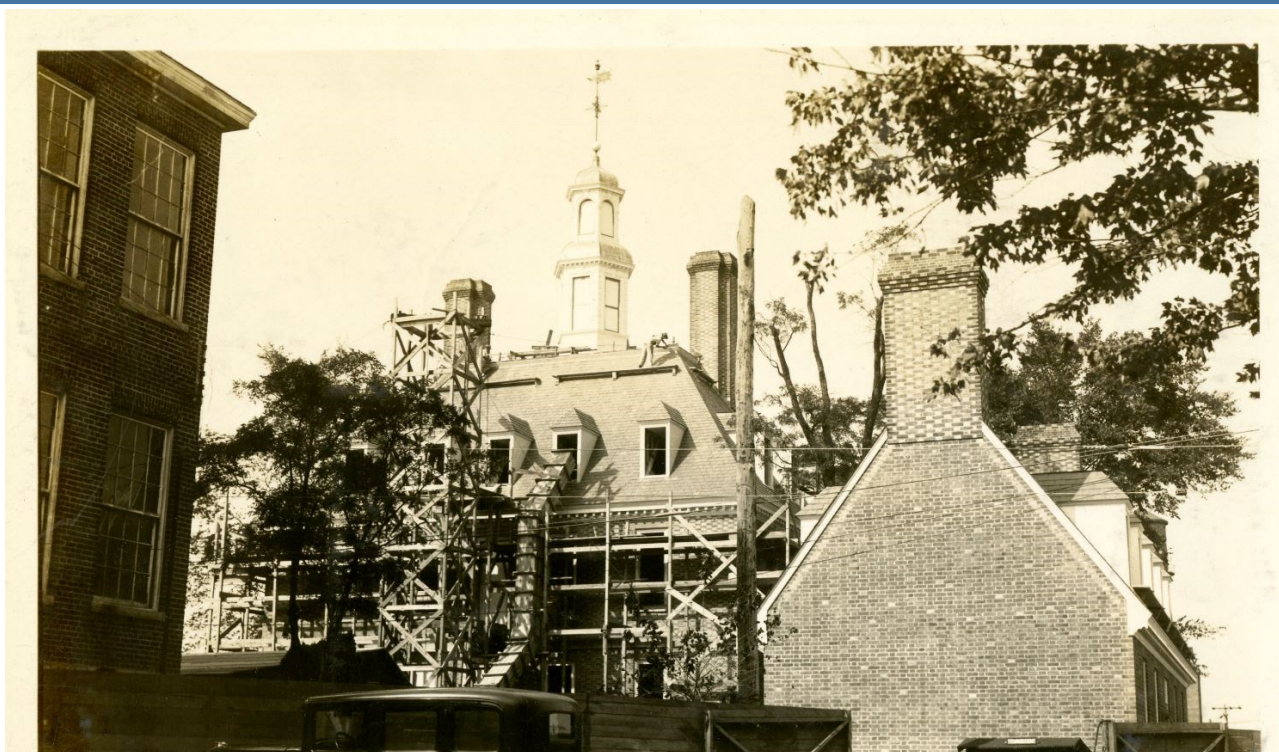
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR LIBRARY

SUMMER 2022

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 5, NO. 1

NEW VISUAL MATERIALS ACQUISITIONS



Reconstruction progress photo looking around the corner of the Williamsburg High School, prior to its demolition, towards the front elevation of the Governor's Palace with a workman balanced on scaffolding on the roof, October 1932. Eller Family Scrapbook Photos.

IN THIS ISSUE

New Visual Materials:	p. 1-4
Bobbsey Twins:	p. 5
Friends Help Fund Database Purchases :	p. 6-7
Friends of Bruton Parish Church:	p. 8
Snack Wagon:	p. 8
Library Volunteer Milestone:	p. 9-10

The Rockefeller Library is pleased to announce that several new donations are currently being processed for addition to its visual materials collections. They range from photographic prints and slides to scrapbooks and postcards. The first is a black and white photograph documenting a visit by President Warren G. Harding to Williamsburg, Virginia on October 19, 1921 to deliver an address at the installation of Dr. Julian Chandler as President of the College of William & Mary. Harding is shown walking with several officials in a close-up view that complements the other photo of his visit held by the library which depicts his motorcade from a

NEW VISUAL MATERIALS ACQUISITIONS

(continued)

distance. The early years of Williamsburg's restoration are captured in another acquisition, the Eller Family Album Photographs. It consists of fourteen 4x6 inch black and white photographs removed from a scrapbook depicting Williamsburg High School just prior to its demolition, the Governor's Palace under reconstruction and after completion, the Governor's Palace gardens, the Colonial Parkway tunnel under construction, and the Capitol under reconstruction. Post-World War II experiences of a 1949 guest to Colonial Williamsburg are chronicled in the Hoffman Family Travel Album, a scrapbook with a combination of photos, postcards, and memorabilia. One of the unique features of the album is that the compiler included segments of small sections of the Colonial Williamsburg visitor's map on each page to correlate their location with the items displayed.

Another recent donation is a collection of 35mm slides taken by Gertrude Ball Daversa, who worked in various positions at Colonial Williamsburg between 1947-1978, including as a hostess, secretary, and assistant restaurant manager. Her parents, Frederick Hooker Ball and Merrill Proctor Ball, signed a lifetime tenancy agreement with Colonial Williamsburg in 1938. In exchange for selling their residence to Colonial Williamsburg to restore as the Peyton Randolph House, they received a guarantee that they and their family members could continue to reside in a portion of the house. Gertrude grew up in the Peyton Randolph House and after her parents' deaths, she resided in the house until she passed away on December 15, 2003.

Gertrude Ball Daversa's slides provide early color photographic documentation of Colonial Williamsburg buildings, gardens, and costumed interpreters, as well as of many distinguished visitors who toured Colonial Williamsburg in the 1950s and 1960s. While working as a costumed hostess, Gertrude regularly photographed the gardens, exhibition buildings, and interior furnishings that she discussed with visitors during guided tours. Her slides offer a glimpse into the expanding experiences for visitors in post-World War II Colonial Williamsburg including the furnishings and gardens of the Brush-Everard House, opened in 1952, and new trade sites, such as the King's Arms Barber Shop and Robertson's Windmill. Gertrude also took portraits of her colleagues that range from hostesses posing with tree and plant specimens to tradesmen in their shops and African Americans who worked as building custodians under the Curator's Department.

A final collection that has augmented visual materials holdings is the Daniel Reiff Photograph Collection. It is comprised of 372 5x7 inch black and white photos of Georgian houses in Virginia and England used to illustrate Daniel Reiff's book, *Small Georgian Houses in England and Virginia* and thirty-five accompanying research files on Georgian houses in Virginia and England used to illustrate Daniel Reiff's book, *Small Georgian Houses in England and Virginia* and thirty-five accompanying research files organized alphabetically by structure. The photos encompass not only the buildings that make up Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area but also hundreds of structures in the Mid-



A man raises his hat to President Warren G. Harding as he walks past him during his visit to Williamsburg on October 19, 1921 to give an address at the installation of Dr. Julian Chandler as the President of the College of William & Mary.

NEW VISUAL MATERIALS ACQUISITIONS

(continued)

Atlantic region and in England studied by our architectural historians as precedents for restoring the buildings at Colonial Williamsburg. This collection is an excellent addition to our visual documentation on the architectural features that constitute domestic Georgian architecture. Staff members preparing lectures and articles about Williamsburg's restoration will find the research photos and files to be important references for understanding Williamsburg's eighteenth-century residences within the broader context of the development of the Georgian style.



Page 13, postcards of the Shoemaker's Shop and the Golden Ball Silversmith Shop as they appeared in the late 1940s, Hoffman Travel Scrapbook

NEW VISUAL MATERIALS ACQUISITIONS

(continued)

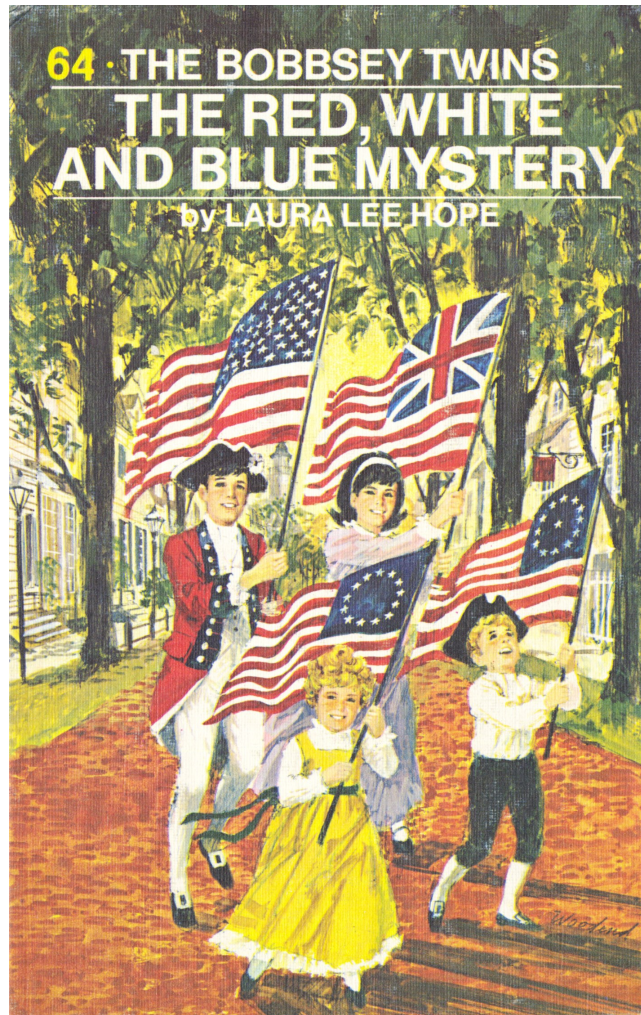


Barbara Tharp posing by a Siberian crab apple tree in the Thomas Everard House garden, 1950s. Gertrude Ball Daversa Slide Collection.



Examples of three black and white photos of Georgian houses featuring hipped roofs, including the George Wythe House, the Ludwell-Paradise House, and Wilton, used to illustrate the chapter "Brick Hipped-Roof Houses in Virginia through the 1750s" in *Small Georgian Houses in England and Virginia* by Daniel Reiff, University of Delaware Press, 1986. Daniel Reiff Photograph Collection.

BOBBSEY TWINS



Who is ready to solve a mystery? In 2021, a donor gave the Corporate Archives a copy of *The Bobbsey Twins: The Red, White and Blue Mystery*, by Laura Lee Hope (New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 1971). Join Nan and Bert and Flossie and Freddie on their 64th adventure that begins with the family's trip to Colonial Williamsburg to participate in a Fourth of July pageant. As they investigate the triple mysteries of a thief in the Historic Area, a mysterious howling on a farm outside of town, and the legend of a lost flag of the American Revolution, the two sets of twins tour the town, making stops at the Crafts (now called Historic Trades) shops, Capitol, Magazine, Palace Green, Information Center, Motor House Cafeteria, King's Arms Tavern, Williamsburg Inn, Chowning's Tavern, Governor's Palace, Public Gaol, Craft House, Brush Everard House, and the Raleigh Tavern. They take an ox cart ride, eat peanut soup and gingerbread men, get lost in the Palace maze, are (accidentally?) locked in the icehouse, buy a souvenir horseshoe at the blacksmith, watch a militia drill, go on a carriage ride, and join a nighttime Lanthorn Tour. They also manage side trips to Jamestown Festival Park, the glasshouse, and Yorktown after a ride on the Colonial Parkway. Along the way, they solve all the mysteries AND have time to participate in the parade! This book perfectly demonstrates the earned advertising that helped Colonial Williamsburg insert itself into so many aspects of American life that for decades it was ubiquitous in the culture. Many thanks to our donor (who prefers to remain anonymous).

FRIENDS HELP FUND DATABASE PURCHASES



[Part of] A map of the southern Indian district of North America, 1775, © The Newberry Library.

Rockefeller Library is thrilled to announce the addition of two new databases to the collection of electronic resources available to Foundation staff and visiting researchers. Our generous Friends of John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library provided funding to help support these purchases and we give them a resounding “Huzzah!” Both these resources will expand our understanding of the eighteenth-century world.

American Indian Histories and Cultures

Curated by Adam Matthew Digital, the primary source material included in this resource is drawn from the Newberry Library’s extensive Edward E. Ayer Collection. One of the strongest archival collections on American Indian history in the world, the Ayer Collection contains 130,000 volumes, over one million manuscript pages, 2,000 maps, 500 atlases, 11,000 photographs, and 3,500 drawings and paintings. Together these items present a unique insight into interactions between American Indians and Europeans from their earliest contact, continuing through the turbulence of the American Civil War, the on-going repercussions of government legislation, right up to the civil rights movement of the mid- to late-twentieth century.

As the library’s first electronic collection focusing on American Indians, this resource will widen the scope of our research. It will support the vital work of the Foundation’s new Assistant Research Historian examining the presence and experience of American Indians in Williamsburg and Virginia in the eighteenth century and the interpreters in our American Indian Initiative, including a new Nation Builder portraying Cherokee leader Oconostota. More broadly, it will increase knowledge of American Indian history throughout the Foundation, enhancing our ability to tell the complete story of the people who filled the streets, buildings, homes, and businesses of eighteenth-century Williamsburg.

FRIENDS HELP FUND DATABASE PURCHASES

(continued)



The Lady's Magazine; or entertaining companion for the fair sex, appropriated solely to their use and amusement, Volume 1, August 1770, © Birmingham Central Library.

Eighteenth Century Journals, Module V

This exciting new resource complements eighteenth-century journal content already offered by Rockefeller Library. It includes the full run of *The Lady's Magazine: or Entertaining Companion for the Fair Sex*, a periodical which ran for sixty-two years from 1770 to 1832, before merging with its rival *The Ladies Museum* in 1832. *The Lady's Magazine* was issued monthly and is significant both for its longevity and for the platform it provided for women, as both contributors and consumers, to engage in the literary discourse of the eighteenth century. Covering a wide range of topics and genres, from fashions to poetry to medicinal receipts and domestic and foreign news, the textual content was often complemented with elegant engravings, music sheets, embroidery patterns, and later, color fashion plates. Over the course of its sixty-two year run, readers of the magazine today can trace shifts in public opinion, taste, culture and political climate, making *The Lady's Magazine* an enlightening source for the study of eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century social and cultural history.

This resource will be of interest throughout the Foundation for its insight into women's lives and perspectives, but it will be especially useful for those who research – and create – period clothing and accessories, and for research into manners, dance, and domestic life.

Please visit [Friends of John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library](#) for information on how you can support the Library's educational mission.

FRIENDS OF BRUTON PARISH CHURCH

On Saturday, September 17th, the library welcomed 86 members of the Friends of Bruton Parish for their 9th annual Friends Day event. Carl Childs kicked off the morning session with an overview of the Rockefeller Library's history and current services. Childs highlighted the important work being done by the library's own Friends of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library group that helps the library acquire new and relevant resources, digitize collections, and protect collections through an active conservation and preservation program.

Attendees were then treated to behind-the-scenes tours of Corporate Archives, Media Collections, Special Collections, and Visual Resources. Library staff Donna Cooke, Tracey Gulden, Marianne Martin, and Doug Mayo highlighted treasures from the respective collections they curate, including home movies showing Bruton Parish Church and Black coachmen navigating the Historic Area in the 1950s, a selection of sermons delivered by Dr. W.A. R. Goodwin while vicar at Bruton Parish Church, letters from the King of Spain dated July 29, 1608 and June 11, 1609 requesting information concerning the actions of English settlers in Jamestown, and scrapbooks and photos documenting the Church's history. Attendees learned how the work of library staff informs the interpretive programming seen in the Historic Area and exhibitions in the Art Museums.

Following the library tours, the Friends of Bruton Parish dined at the Inn's Regency Room and were treated to Nicole Brown's interpretation of Bray School teacher Ann Wager and a presentation by Matt Webster on Colonial Williamsburg's ongoing research and future restoration plans for the Bray School building.

Please visit [Friends of John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library](#) for information on how you can support the Library.

SNACK WAGON



Melissa Schutt and Donna Cooke getting prepared for their snack wagon run.

During the pandemic, apprentice carpenter Mary Lawrence Herbert came up with the idea to deliver water and snacks to employees working outside in the Historic Area during the hot summer months. The "snack wagon" was so popular that its operation has continued and this past summer library staff were invited to participate. Employees operating the snack wagon went to the Coach & Livestock Stables to retrieve a golf cart and fill a large cooler with ice water. After a brief driving lesson, the adventurers were off to the Waters Storehouse in the Historic Area to pick up crates of snacks. The snack wagon then proceeded to designated stops throughout the Historic Area to deliver much-appreciated water and snacks to front-line employees. This was a wonderful opportunity for us to talk to our colleagues and to see what it is like for them working outside in the heat. It was also a chance for us to thank them for their hard work and efforts to support Colonial Williamsburg's mission, "That the future may learn from the past." We so admire and appreciate all our front-line colleagues and the work they do to provide memorable experiences for our guests! (Fun fact: one of the most popular snacks were "sucker punch" pickle slices!)

LIBRARY VOLUNTEER CELEBRATES MILESTONE



Laura Arnold, our library's longest serving volunteer.

Rockefeller Library relies on its cadre of loyal volunteers – we truly could not do our work without them! In this newsletter, we want to give a special “shout out” to Laura Arnold, who celebrates 35 years as a library volunteer this year. During her time with us, Laura has completed many valuable projects, including the compilation of a complete index to the Colonial Williamsburg Interpreter, an internal publication that ran from 1980 – 2009 and continues to be an important resource for both CWF staff and outside researchers. (You can find all the issues, along with [Laura's index](#), on the library's Omeka site. She also worked on indexing the popular British magazine *Country Life*, assisted with library inventories, and participated in a project to re-barcode the entire library collection in 2003. Her current project, begun during the pandemic, involves clipping Foundation-related articles from the *Virginia Gazette* for Corporate Archives' files: she's able to complete this work from home, making monthly trips to the library to deliver clippings and pick up newspapers.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEER CELEBRATES MILESTONE

(continued)

Laura's achievement was recognized at the Volunteer Reception held at the Williamsburg Lodge on September 28th. We so appreciate her diligence, conscientiousness, and devotion to the library!

We also celebrate additional library volunteers who reached milestone anniversaries in 2022, including:

20-year recipient

Mary Rose Schlatter

15-year recipients

Stuart Butler

Joan Ruszkowski

5-year recipients

Dennis Branden

Joan Childs

Shelby Hawthorne

Nancy Marley

Pam Reiss

We are grateful to all the volunteers that help us meet our mission.

The *John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library Newsletter* is a publication of Colonial Williamsburg's John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library.

Vice President, Educational Strategy and Civic Engagement

Mia Nagawiecki

Executive Director, John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library

Carl Childs

Editor

Doug Mayo

Contributors

Carl Childs, Donna Cooke, Marianne Martin, Sarah Nerney and Melissa Schutt

Please visit [Friends of John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library](#) for information on how you can help support the Library.

To contact the library directly, please call 757-220-7249; 757-565-8510 or email us at rocklibrary@cwf.org.