



The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

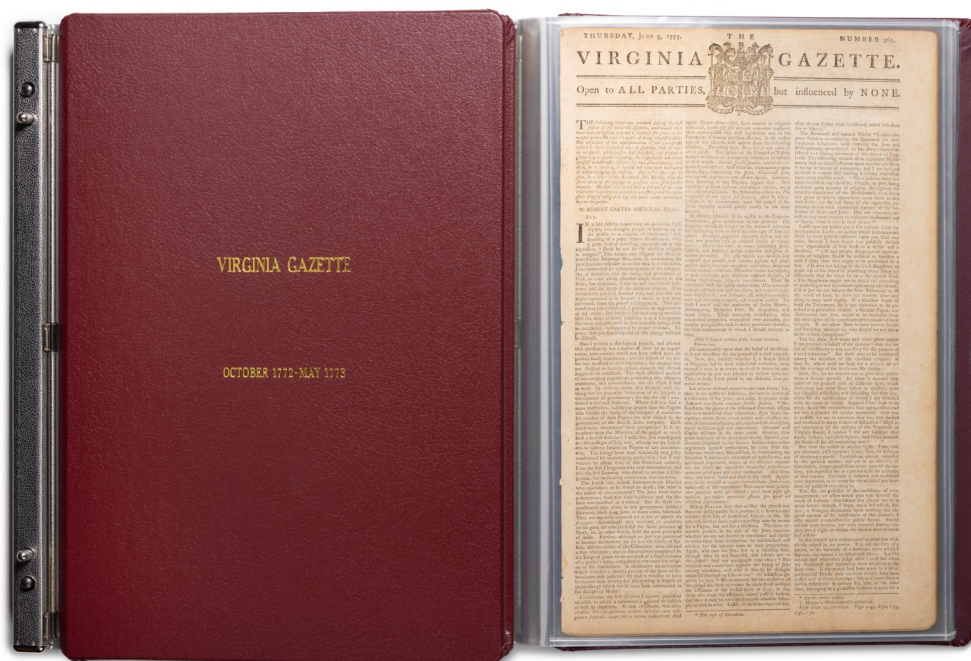
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR LIBRARY

FALL 2023

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 6, NO. 1

RITTENHOUSE GIFT



A post-conservation image of the Virginia Gazettes shown in their new bindings.

IN THIS ISSUE

Rittenhouse Gift:	p. 1-3
Architectural Drawings Conservation:	p. 4-5
Soldier and Sailor Training Program:	p. 6-7
Colonial Williamsburg Matchbooks:	p. 7-8
Urgent Conservation Priorities:	p. 9-10
New Databases:	p. 10-11

William Rind began publishing his *Virginia Gazette* in 1767 and continued until his death in 1773. After Rind's death, his wife Clementina continued publishing the paper until she died the following year. In 1996, Colonial Williamsburg acquired seventy-five issues of the *Virginia Gazette* printed by the Rinds from October 8, 1772, to December 30, 1773. Among these issues are the last printed by William and first by Clementina. Earlier this year, these issues were sent to a conservation lab for treatment. The previous owner of the issues had them bound and that binding was in disrepair at the time of acquisition. The issues within the binding were becoming brittle and difficult to handle, though they were not causing further damage. At

RITTENHOUSE GIFT

(continued)



L O N D O N, July 18.
W E hear that the directors of the bank of England entered up a judgment the other day in the court of Westminster Hall against three Scotch Noblemen, for the sum of 300,000l.

From Rhode Island we receive advice that one of his Majesty's ships of war, interrupting the trade of some smugglers in that neighbourhood, the people rose up, and thinking it patriotism to resist the laws of this country, burnt the ship's boats, and carried their commerce in triumph to their own habitations.

The conduct of the Rhode Islanders, on the foregoing occasion, it is thought, will be productive of much disturbance in America. If our government resents it with the spirit they ought we shall have fresh exclamations from the sons of liberty beyond the Atlantic; and if they do not, the colonies are immediately discharged from their dependence upon England. The Mother country and the colonies are now come to a kind of crisis, and one or the other must necessarily give way in the dispute. Should the former, however, relax from her just authority, she may as well resign all her dependent territories, and content herself with what is merely contained in her own island.

Rhode Island is one of the four provinces that go under the general name of New England, and of which Massachusetts Bay is the principal. The New Englanders are universally hated in America; and notwithstanding Boston affects to be the capital of the colonies, the colonies would rather embrace the most certain destruction than acknowledge her for a mistress.

The councils held within these few days have been all summoned in consequence of the disagreeable advice from America; for though *fiat justitia ruat cælum* may be at present a court maxim, it is a court maxim which our Ministers find attended with insuperable difficulties.

The Earl of Hillsborough, when the advice relative to the Rhode Islanders came to court, exclaimed, "Well, what do they think of extending their colonization now, when it is evident that instead of having too few we have actually too many settlements in America!"

The circumstance which embarrasses government so much with America is the powerful interposition which the vast body of merchants trading to the colonies make in their favour. The influence of these Gentlemen is immense, and it is a melancholy truth that in all disagreements between the parent state and her children, they are more actuated by views of private interest than by the prosperity of their country.

The opposition is in great spirits from the present complexion of affairs, as their views are not to promote the public good, but, if possible, to snatch the loaves and fishes from their enemies the Ministry.

E P I T A P H on General W O L F E.
STRANGER! stay, if e'er thy friendly eye

the lab, the conservator removed the old binding, cleaned, deacidified, and flattened each leaf. Following that process, each leaf was encapsulated in a plastic sleeve, and then bound in two post bindings. Upon their return to Special Collections, the issues were used in this summer's Teacher Institute sessions.

During those sessions, visiting teachers learned about the business of printing and the role of newspapers in pre-Revolutionary America, knowledge they will share with their students back in their classrooms. At the conclusion of the teacher sessions, the issues were sent offsite for digitization. These images are now available [online](#).

The conservation and digitization of these issues was made possible by a generous donation from Ms. Martha Rittenhouse. The John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library appreciates her generosity and the generosity of all our donors who make it possible for us to acquire, conserve, and digitize the important historic materials in our care so they can be shared with the world.

A pre-conservation photo showing the state of the Virginia Gazette issues before conservation.

RITTENHOUSE GIFT

(continued)

Dr. Marlan, the judicious translator of Mollin, and one of the prominent clergymen at the Hague, has been furnished with the most simple materials for the history of the rise and progress of the republic of Holland, and is busy in giving them form and method. This is a glorious task, and would require a bold and vigorous pen.

Translations are preparing at Paris of Smith's theory of general sentiments, and of the ingenious treatise on the different kinds of taste in poetry, by professor Millar. This last work has particularly struck the Parisians. The delicate and elegant critics of the continent were immediately sensible of its merits. The poems, epic and dramatic, are in the same style, in their opinion, so comprehensive, that it affords principles from which to account for every circumstance and peculiarity, that is eminent or interesting in the history of man. They thought there could be nothing triller than his views, nothing more admirable than the variety of his manner, nothing soper than his illustrations, and nothing finer than his rhapodes.

N. E. W. Y. O. R., August 9.
Extract of a letter from St. George's Key, Bay of Honduras, June 4, 1773.

This day they bring us from Rhodeport the following account: "That a few days ago came aboard that crew a species of Negro, not like any ever known in this country; they have already killed an Indian and a Negro, and wounded a black man; they have made many attempts on the hands of the crew; one person they killed in his bed, and the other stealing his gun in his hands. The Negroes, terrified out of their wits, refuse to work in the boat. These animals turn out of stock; whenever they shall humanize, they will be the place to be put at their prey. Our condition is deplorable, and hardly to be described."

PHILADELPHIA, August 4.
Yesterday arrived here the ship Jupiter, Captain Eschler, from Londonderry, with 314 passengers. He filled in company with the ship Alexander, Captain Hunter, who has on board 600 passengers, and with the ship Bristol, Captain Mitchell, with 250 passengers; the latter of which we hear, is arrived at New York, in that three ships, and Captain Cunningham, this country will receive the addition of 2000 inhabitants.

W. B. R. U. K. G., August 10.

Last Thursday died, after suffering a tedious and painful illness with the most obstinate fever, Mr. WILLIAM BROWN, printer to the colony. The general esteem the public entertained for him was fully evinced by the respect shown to his remains, being attended to the grave by a great number of the most respectable inhabitants, and by the respectful order of FAY MARSH, who with great solemnity and the last honors to their deceased brother. The kind attention and concern expressed by each individual will ever demand the most grateful acknowledgments from his afflicted family.

It gives me the most heart-felt satisfaction, says a correspondent, to inform the public that, notwithstanding the late prospect which professed itself at the beginning of the season, our fields of Indian corn are now in the most flourishing condition.

The *Moby*, Orr, from Glasgow, is arrived in James river.

PHILMONT and D. C. are both come to land, and fall here a piece in our view.

N. B. R. U. K. G., August 20.

On Tuesday last died Doctor JOHN SHEPHERD, of this place, much regretted, and in the bloom of youth, that promised long and extensive usefulness. Through a tedious and painful illness he displayed uncommon patience and cheerfulness, and to his last moments still seemed to breathe that spirit of immortality that had so much adorned his life. Amiable in his disposition and manners, diligent, cheerful, and tender in the duties of his profession, he was greatly endeared to his friends and acquaintances; and although he had not long resided amongst us, yet the universal concern of people that attended his remains fully evinced that general esteem he had so deservedly acquired. As a public token of regard, the *Queen's Independent Company* of this place, of which he was a worthy member, were drawn out on Wednesday, in their uniforms, with the proper orders of mourning, and, after following the body in funeral procession to the church, where a suitable sermon was preached, they attended him to the grave, and there paid him the last military honors, while, by the security and order observed through the whole, they exhibited a lively expression of their own feelings, and added great solemnity to the melancholy occasion.

When though, lamented man, thy pains were great,
Great as thy glory now, and life complete;
And while the world deplores thy early fall,
The bright example shall inspire us all,
Shall teach us, while we catch thy virtues' ray,
How'de the life that is to live, like thee to pass!

To be SOLD, to the highest bidder, on Thursday the 4th of November next, before the Raleigh tavern, in Williamsburg.

THE exceeding fine PLANTATION and TRACT of LAND in Chesterfield county, at the falls of James river, belonging to the fabricker, which contains upwards of 1200 acres, and, in account of its richness and situation, is diversely esteemed the most valuable in the colony, say, equal to any in America. It is in good order for cropping, and about 250 acres will be found in wheat this fall; from which may be expected to be raised at least 6000 bushels. Twelve months credit will be allowed, the purchaser giving bond and approved security to

W. BYRD, and his TRUSTEES.

To be RENTED for one year, and entered on at Christmas.

THE ORDINARY now occupied by the fabricker at Todd's Bridge, in King & Queen county. The terms may be known by applying to me, or the premises.

BETTY TODD.

WILLIAMSBURG, August 26, 1773.

FOUND in this city a TOBACCO NOTE, on Hollings' warehouse, number 7, gross 1138, tare 130, nett 1008. It is dated the 26th of July, 1773. It is owned by Jeff. Cogbill, and witnessed by Randolph and Archer.

JOSHUA KENDALL.

As I am a creditor of Mr. John Scoble for about 500 hundred pounds, and have been requested by many of his creditors to attempt to insure their debts, my duty and inclination have led me to bestow much thought on the state of his affairs, and from the best information I can get, I am persuaded there is no possible means of getting a dividend to the persons, whose losses have been accepted as heretofore will be mentioned, which Mr. Scoble not only refuses to do, but says he is willing to do any thing the creditors shall approve; for this purpose I am bound to report all Mr. Scoble's affairs in Frederickburg, on the 21st day of September next, being the 2d day of the feast, those who cannot attend in person are requested to inform their friends, or the better advised, the plan is here proposed. Mr. James Lawton having obtained a mortgage on Mr. Scoble's whole estate, to secure the payment of twenty thousand pounds sterling, he having been indebted to Mr. Scoble for advances made by Mr. Crawford, Pagan, and Hamilton, while they were in partnership with Mr. Scoble, it is thought this mortgage may be set aside, as to do so much. A hope also is had, that by doing so to Mr. Lawton's part, but he the merits of their claims as they may, a bill is now depending in the Honorable the General Court for that end, and will be prosecuted. This will necessarily take up some time, and still circumstances on this side may make Mr. Scoble's estate, without submitting to this claim of Mr. Lawton's, which, from papers delivered me by Mr. Scoble, I will venture to pronounce, is so circumstanced, as to be the part of Mr. Crawford, Pagan, and Hamilton, that it might not be so beneficial to without a decree in favour of my consequently something must be done in the interim. Mr. Scoble agrees to convey every interest he has in stock of the creditors as well grant him a letter of license for a reasonable time. This, in truth, is but a small concession, as the creditors part, besides that Mr. Scoble's perils will not position one fourth, he will remain his, he is in great state of health, will be held for a trader. Such of the creditors as have been already satisfied think that the former, which Mr. Scoble can put them in immediate possession of, may be carried on to a considerable advantage. It is a bill, that, if well managed, it will produce 7 or 800 tons per annum, which may be brought to navigation, at convenient seasons, at less than 25. currency a ton; this, and the expense of making, must be advanced by the creditors. For every cent, on their debt will certainly be very sufficient, and even half that will do in cash. Every thing but positions may be had for goods, which may be had on credit but on the whole, or a larger advance, he is obliged to I can say not doubt a chance, the bill provided with one and wood of any on the common, and also furnished with several slaves, hories, and cattle, will not clear the farther expense of making the loan, especially when it is considered that there is a large in the neighbourhood that has contracted for three hundred tons annually, and would gladly enlarge the contract; if any such there are, let them doubt on Mr. Scoble will make a necessary request, so that will accept it. For my part, I am in that will, and I know many others, and in for the sake of equal justice that this acceptance is delayed to the time now proposed, when, however, I declare my readiness to yield my opinion on that of the then majority. At this meeting it will be specified that all the creditors that shall accede to the settlement will contribute rationally, in proportion to their debt, towards a fund for defraying the expense of the preference of the law fall against Mr. Lawton, and the charges of this advertisement; one per cent, not to exceed five pounds, to any creditor, will suffice. Those who decline this need not expect to have any benefit from the labour of others.

JAMES MERCER.

BERNARD HENDERSON, August 17, 1773.

THIS is to certify that Mr. John Fisher, merchant at Oronoke, in the county of Chesterfield, has been under an engagement with me to pay Meff. Wayles and Randolph the amount of my bond for Negroes purchased of them since April last, to wit £ 78 16 5 currency; but failing to comply with his promise then, notwithstanding I furnished him with tobacco at ready money price, for that very purpose, I was induced to give Col. Richard Randolph an order on him, the 11th instanc, for £ 72 9 9 being for the above sum, with interest to that day, which was granted and accepted in a few minutes after it was drawn, in Hudson's carechild, as the field manifest him informed me.

Tell, WILLIAM WEST, and JOHN WEST, Charleston, 5 Sworn to before me, August, 1773. JOHN HYLTON.

CHARLES county, Maryland, August 10, 1773.

ON the 25th of April I bought of a certain John Good, carpenter, then of this county, but now of Albemarle county, in Virginia, a large bay mare, with a bar in her forehead, several white spots on her back, and branded on the near hock P; and on Tuesday the 17th of July from wicked and malicious parties came into my stablefield, knocked the mare on the head, and ran her through. Whoever will discover the villain, so that he may be brought to justice, and committed, shall receive FIVE POUNDS. The said John Good brought the mare with him from Virginia, and has acknowledged to an acquaintance here that he was borrowed of some person there. He has been looking about in the neighbourhood of my plantation a day or two before and after the ad was committed.

THOMAS THORNTON.

To be SOLD, by the fabricker, on Thursday the 26th of September, to the highest bidder.

A TRACT of LAND, in Amherst county, containing 907 acres, near Todd's Gap, and whereon the fabricker now lives, having on it a new dwellinghouse, 56 by 28, with a back of brick chimneys, consisting of six fire places, and a back and front cellar under the whole, very convenient for a tavern or store; also a small dwellinghouse, with two back fireplaces, and a good cellar under it, a kitchen, with a good brick chimney, together with all convenient outbuildings, barns, fields, dairs, cornfields, fowls, &c. two good gardens, excellent apple, peach, and cherry orchards, with about 20 acres of fine meadow, and 20 acres more very fit for that purpose, the soil of the land is well adapted for grain. Likewise 250 acres, adjoining the above, having thereon three plantations; one of which has near 20 acres of cleared land in good order for cropping, a large peach and young apple orchard, three new tobacco houses, a large barn, and 20 acres of woods; part of the said land is rich, eminently suitable for tobacco. Likewise two other tracts, one containing 700 acres, the other contains 240, with a fine plantation, and exceeding good apple, peach, and cherry orchards, together with about 24 acres of meadow land belonging to it, and some dwellinghouses. There is another tract, of 273 acres, with a plantation, apple, and peach orchards; the best is good for tobacco. All the above lands are well watered and timbered, and convenient to church, mill, and court-house; any person wanting to see them may apply to the fabricker, on the premises. Likewise, at the same time and place, will be sold, all kind of household furniture, stocks of cattle, sheep, and hogs, and all necessary implements for husbandry. An unobscured right will be made to the purchaser, and a deed given for each tract at Oronoke court. Credit will be allowed an hundred months for one third, effects months for another third, and three years for the last payment; seven and a half per cent, will be allowed for ready money, otherwise half and approved vouchers must be given either in Mr. James Campbell, merchant in Richmond, Mr. Charles Irving, merchant in Albemarle, or to the fabricker.

HENRY KEY.

N. B. All persons to whom I am indebted are desired to bring in their accounts by the 24th of September, 1773; and those who are indebted to me are desired to settle their accounts on or before the above mentioned time, as I intend to leave the colony this fall.

To be SOLD, and entered on immediately.

EIGHT hundred and fifty acres of LAND in James City county, on Ware creek, and about a mile from York river. The creek affords about 100 acres of very good marsh, and extraordinary good fishing and fowling, and is large enough for boats to pass up and down. The land is remarkably good for stocks of any kind, and is very well timbered, lies extremely convenient to church and mill, and about 14 miles from Williamsburg. The whole may be seen by applying to Major Dudley Richardson, who lives near the house. Any person inclinable to purchase may have it on paying twenty five pounds per hundred acres; one half of the money to be paid on the acknowledgment of the land, and twelve months credit will be given for the remainder.

CHARLES ALLEN.

ALL persons indebted to Richard Davis, late of Norfolk county, deceased, are desired to make speedily their accounts, as he is desired to settle his accounts; and those that have any demands against the said estate are requested to make them known.

JONATHAN LYLE, Esquire.

W O O L L E N S.

THE fabricker has now upon hand several bales of coarse woollens, properly selected for a floor, from 6d. to 10d. sterling value. Also a large quantity of coarse cloth and trimmings, in small bales, of 12 to 15 yards long, which he intends selling by the bale, or retailing by the piece. I will expect more coarse woollens in very soon of all sorts. Tell all in advance for cash, or short credit. Any person applying to me, at Mr. John Woodcock's, in Norfolk, or at the general courts, may depend on being served to satisfaction.

JOHN STONEY.

GEORGE the Third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, &c. To the Sheriff of Amherst county, greeting: We command you that you cause James Smith to appear before our Justices of our court of our said county, in chancery, at the courthouse, on the first Monday in next month, to answer a bill in chancery, exhibited against him by McPherson and Moxley, and that he fail in us with out, under the penalty of 1000, and have then their bill writ. Witness Edmund Wilcox, clerk of our said court, at the courthouse, the 6th day of August, in the thirteenth year of our reign.

EDMUND WILCOX.

COMMITTED to Hampshire county goal a Negro man named HARRY, about 45 feet three inches high, and about 20 years old, cannot, or will not, tell the county wherein his master resides, but says his master's name is James Harbidge, and that he lives about 5 miles from Pocomsuck river, and about 6 from Col. James Bell's; this is all the account he will give. The owner is desired to pay the usual fees, and take him away.

JOHN ROUSSALL, Deputy Sheriff.

TAKEN up, at my plantation, on Williams river, about three years ago, a broad deer, marked with an underlock to the left ear, and with a crop and nick in the right. Appointed to it, Whoever claims the said deer may have it by applying to Mr. Joseph Moore on said plantation.

JAMES SOUTHALL.

TAKEN up, in Stafford, a large black mare, marked with a half inch in each ear, and has a small brand of white in his forehead. Found, and applied to by JOHN BAKER, Justice.

TAKEN up, in Augusta, two hogs, one of which had on a large bill, with a crop and 100 in each ear. Found, and appointed to it, by PETER HOO.

One of Clementina Rind's first duties as printer was to inform the public of the passing of her husband, William. The announcement appears here within the thick black border.

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS CONSERVATION



Library volunteers Scott Spence and Nancy Marley assist with cleaning soot residue off architectural drawings using a lint-free microfiber cloth and wedges of a vulcanized rubber dry cleaning sponge.

Special Collections volunteers are hard at work assisting with the cleaning of a group of one hundred blueprints received in January as part of a donation from the architectural firm of Perry Dean Rogers Partners of Boston. The blueprints encompass floor plans, elevations, sections, and details of various buildings in Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area created by the Williamsburg office of Perry, Shaw & Hepburn, the architects in charge of Williamsburg's initial restoration. For many years, the drawings remained in the firm's Boston office in a basement storage area near a furnace. As a result, the drawings are coated with a film of soot that must be removed before the drawings can be sent over to the Paper Conservation Lab for flattening in a humidification chamber. Due to being rolled in tubes for many decades, quite a few of the drawings are not responding to basic flattening treatments and will require humidification to relax them enough to flatten for storage in drawers.

Colonial Williamsburg's Senior Paper Conservator, Pam Young, showed staff and volunteers how to gently clean the soot off the drawings. First, a lint free microfiber cloth is carefully applied across the verso of each drawing to remove an initial layer of soot. Next, a small piece of vulcanized rubber sponge is gently dabbed on sections of the drawing exhibiting areas of greater soil, such as the edges of the drawing exposed within the storage tube. The sponges quickly become saturated with soot and often several are required to complete the cleaning of one drawing.

A more in-depth conservation project with architectural drawings is taking place in the Paper Conservation Lab under the supervision of Young and Assistant Paper Conservator, Perrine Lesaux. They are currently preparing fourteen items from the A. Lawrence Kocher Collection for an upcoming loan to the Palm Springs Art Museum for the exhibition Albert Frey: Innovative Modernist, to be held from January 13 to June 6, 2024. A. Lawrence Kocher served as an Advisory Architect for the Williamsburg Restoration. In this role, he joined a group of practitioners from around the country who met

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS CONSERVATION



Colonial Williamsburg Assistant Paper Conservator, Perrine Lesaux, examining photographs and architectural drawings from the A. Lawrence Kocher Collection that will be loaned to the Palm Springs Art Museum for the exhibit Albert Frey: Innovative Modernist.

periodically at Williamsburg to review the restoration work's progress, develop guidelines, and share their expertise. Kocher combined his study of colonial architecture through this consultant role with experimentation in the emerging International Style by partnering with Albert Frey in the early 1930s to design buildings influenced by Le Corbusier's atelier. Kocher returned to Colonial Williamsburg in 1944 to become Architectural Records Editor, a position he held until 1954.

The Palm Springs Art Museum (PSAM) is borrowing ten architectural drawings, three photographs, and one news clipping that illustrate the collaboration between A. Lawrence Kocher and Albert Frey on such projects as the Aluminaire House, Darien Guild Hall, the Ralph House, the Weekend House, a donut shop, and a miniature golf course. To prepare the drawings for safe transport and exhibition at the museum, Pam and Perrine are carrying out cleaning, flattening, and mending tasks. Some of the drawings require humidification in a chamber under a plastic dome. This relaxes the creases to give the drawings a smooth surface for matting and framing for display. After exposure to the humidity, the drawings are individually flattened using heavy weights. Perrine also uses thin Japanese tissue to fill in small losses on the drawings. By matching the tone and transparency of the tissue paper, she can make these small repairs almost unnoticeable. Pam is mounting the drawings, photographs, and newspaper clipping to acid-free matboard in preparation for framing at the PSAM. The Rockefeller Library is grateful for the expertise and support of our skilled paper conservation staff who have made these two important projects possible.

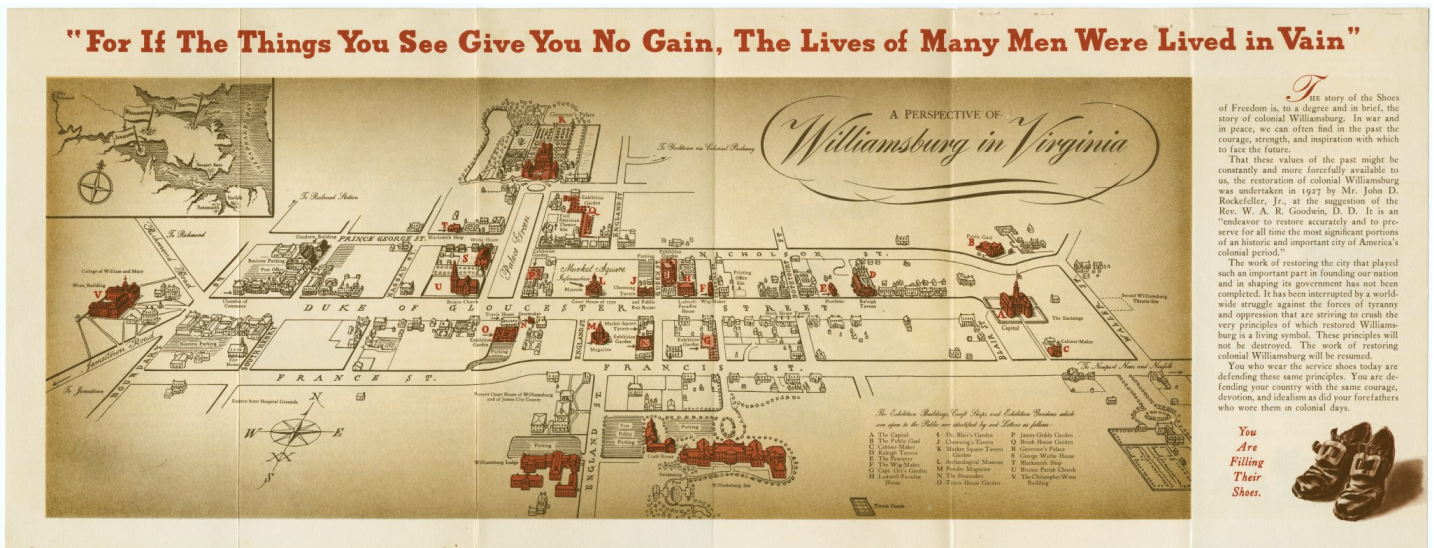
COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG'S SOLDIER SAILOR TRAINING PROGRAM



Associate Archivist, Sarah Nerney, pictured, and Marianne Martin, Visual Resources Librarian, gave their presentation, "We Shall Carry On": Colonial Williamsburg's Contribution to the War Effort, 1941-1945," to an audience of forty-three people at the Williamsburg Regional Library on July 7, 2023. One of the main segments presented by Sarah focused upon the Soldier Sailor Training Program. She explained that in May 1942, President Chorley wrote a letter to Brigadier General Forrest Williford, then the commanding officer at Ft. Eustis, proposing an idea that he hoped would demonstrate Colonial Williamsburg's commitment to making a real and valuable contribution to the war effort. Chorley proposed including in the Ft. Eustis basic training program a one-day educational trip to Colonial Williamsburg to demonstrate to the soldiers "why we are in this war and just what we are fighting to preserve." This program would be a required part of basic training rather than a recreational visit. It would be constructed to show that the current fight was to preserve the general foundations of a free people which was the same fight for what Chorley referred to as the Four Freedoms of the American Revolution: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of the press, and freedom of assembly. And where better to reinforce these concepts, said Chorley, than in the place where these foundations were no different in 1942 than they had been in 1776? It would be a real-world application of the vision of Rev. Goodwin and Mr. Rockefeller "that restored Williamsburg might become the nation's inspirational and cultural center for those who believed that the principles for which our forefathers fought should be maintained as the central feature for real Americanism."

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG'S SOLDIER SAILOR TRAINING PROGRAM

(continued)



By October 1943 a brochure had been produced for military visitors to take away with them as a Colonial Williamsburg souvenir. Known as the "Are You Filling Their Shoes" folder, the brochure included a map of Colonial Williamsburg with prominent Revolutionary sites from the program tour. Historical information about the Four Freedoms and the Founding Fathers in the brochure was intended to reinforce the information military visitors learned during their on-site visits. It emphasized the role that the current military was playing in upholding the Revolutionary ideals and was meant to be a continuing inspiration after departure from Colonial Williamsburg by literally asking: Are you filling our patriot forefathers' shoes? Rockefeller loved the folder and told Mr. Chorley that it was "one of the finest pieces of literature the Restoration had ever put out" and that "He and Mrs. Rockefeller were so impressed by it they were mailing copies to all their sons in service." An online exhibition of [We Shall Carry On": Colonial Williamsburg's Contribution to the War Effort, 1941-1945](#) is also available.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG MATCHBOOKS

In August 2023, Corporate Archives acquired a set of twelve Colonial Williamsburg matchbooks in a green cardboard sleeve made by the Maryland Match Company of Baltimore, Maryland. The matchbooks feature two colored illustrations of Colonial Williamsburg exhibition buildings (and the College of William and Mary Wren Building) on the front and reverse of each book, with a brief history of the buildings on the inside. The matches (now removed for the safety of the collections as it is a bad idea to have combustible materials in a library!) had green match heads. The matchbooks likely date from the late 1940s or early 1950s. The Travis House is included in the illustrations and described as functioning as a public house, which indicates that it was still at that time in position at the foot of Palace Green on Duke of Gloucester Street. Travis House restaurant closed in February 1951 when the Kings Arms Tavern opened to replace it. Correspondence in Corporate Archives from 1949-1952 between the Reproductions program and the Maryland Match Company indicates that Colonial Williamsburg had engaged the company to produce the matches which would then be sold in its shops. Thanks very much to Russ Cowell who had this treasure in his possession and was willing to add it to the Corporate Archives collections as we do not have many samples of products from the Restoration era. As we approach our centennial anniversary in 2026, it is nice to bring another piece of our history back home. (Corporate Archives Accession 2023-051)

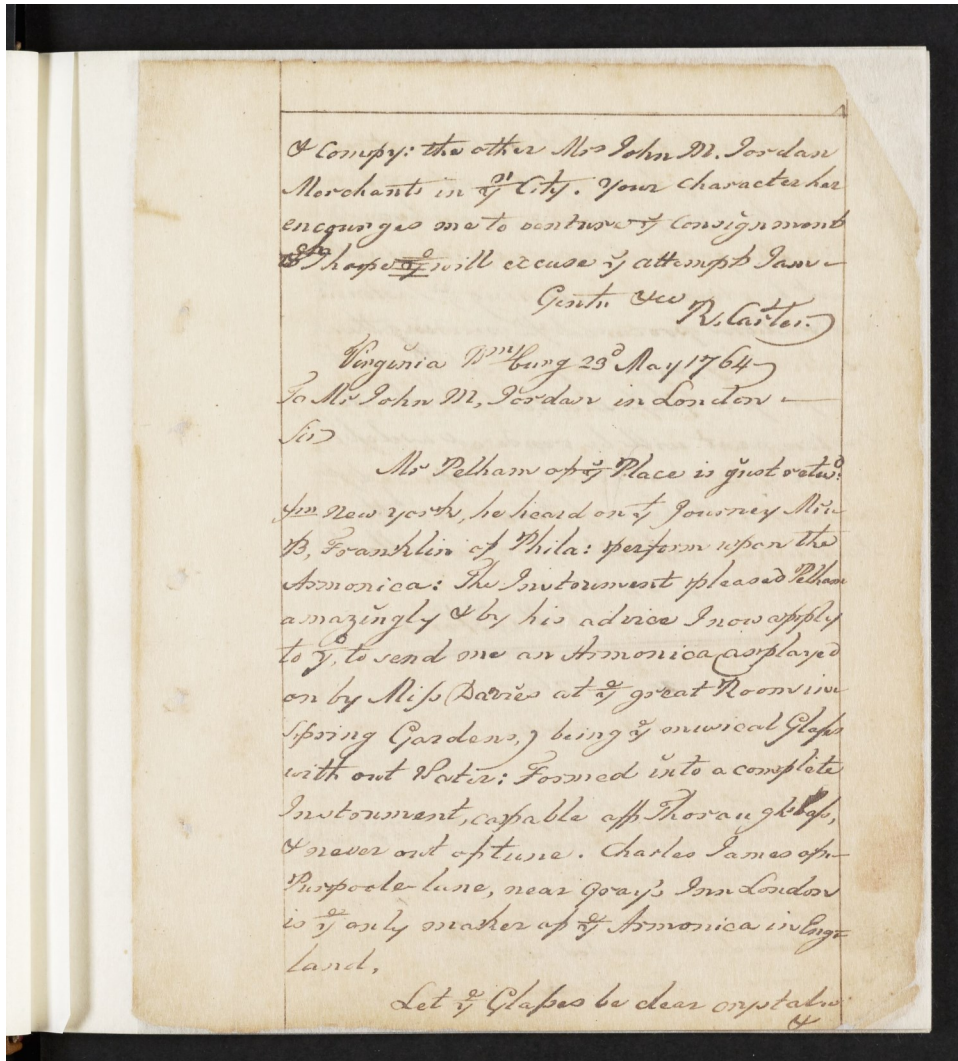
COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG MATCHBOOKS

(continued)



Colonial Williamsburg matchbooks depicting some of the most important public buildings in the old capital.

URGENT CONSERVATION PRIORITIES : ROBERT CARTER III LETTERBOOKS



Robert Carter's letter discussing the musical performance of Benjamin Franklin.

Robert Carter III (1728-1804) was a member of the Virginia Council and perhaps the wealthiest Virginian of his day. He attended the grammar school at the College of William and Mary before going to London to study law. Upon his return to Virginia, he moved into Nomony (sometimes Nomini) Hall in Westmoreland County. Carter married Frances Tasker of Annapolis, Maryland in 1754. In 1761, they moved their young family to a house near the Governor's Palace in Williamsburg. Carter recorded details of his life in Williamsburg in the three letter books he kept during his years in the colonial capital. The letter books commence with Carter's move to his Williamsburg home on Palace Green in 1761. Early letters provide dimensions of the home's interior and document how Carter decorated and furnished his residence. Further letters reveal Carter's love of music and musical instruments. In one such letter, Carter relates how impressed local musician Peter Pelham was with Benjamin Franklin's performance upon the glass armonica in New York. Pelham's description intrigued Carter so that he ordered an armonica from London for his Williamsburg home. Other letters document the wide range of goods Carter consumed, the management of his plantations and personal and family matters.

URGENT CONSERVATION PRIORITIES : ROBERT CARTER III LETTERBOOKS

(continued)

Colonial Williamsburg acquired Carter's letter books in 1957. Earlier this year a vendor imaged the volumes and Special Collections staff and volunteers transcribed them. The images and transcriptions are now freely accessible [online](#). Special Collections would like to thank Catherine Freemon for her assistance in transcribing these volumes.

To protect the pages from handling, conservators laminated the pages of the volumes and rebound them in a modern binding. Current conservation staff have determined that the laminate poses a serious risk of loss to the pages of the letter books and needs to be reversed. Reversing the lamination process is expensive and time consuming. The estimates for delamination, treating and rebinding of the three volumes is approximately \$30,000. If you would like to aid us in our efforts to preserve Robert Carter's letter books, please contact Carl Childs Abby and George O'Neill Executive Director of the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library.

Colonial Williamsburg has opened Robert Carter's home for tours. If you would like to see Robert Carter's Williamsburg home, you may make a reservation [to do so](#).

NEW DATABASES FOR FALL 2023



Rockefeller Library is delighted to announce the acquisition of three new primary source databases that are highly relevant to the Colonial Williamsburg's research priorities. These resources will expand our scholarly horizons and help our historians, researchers, and interpreters uncover and tell new stories, that "the future may learn from the past:"

Indigenous Peoples of North America

Presenting content sourced from both American and Canadian institutions, this collection will enhance research and increase understanding of the historical experiences, cultural traditions and innovations, and political status of Indigenous peoples in the United States and Canada. The material included in this archive has received direct-from-source permission to digitize newspapers from various tribes and organizations and features Indigenous language materials, including dictionaries, religious texts, and primers. This resource will support the work of Colonial Williamsburg's American Indian Initiative and allow all our researchers to explore the impact of invasion and colonization, and the intersection of Indigenous and European histories and systems of knowledge.

NEW DATABASES FOR FALL 2023

(continued)

Slavery And Anti-Slavery: A Transnational Archive

Part II, Slave Trade in the Atlantic World

The documents in this collection chart the inception of slavery in Africa and its rise as perpetuated on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, placing particular emphasis on the Caribbean, Latin America, and United States. This resource was developed by an international editorial board with scholars specializing in North American, European, African, and Latin American/Caribbean aspects of the slave trade.

Part III, The Institution of Slavery

This collection explores, in vivid detail, the inner workings of slavery from 1492 to 1888. Through legal documents, plantation records, first-person accounts, newspapers, government records, and other primary sources, it reveals how enslaved people struggled against the institution. These rare works explore slavery as a legal and labor system, the relationship between slavery and religion, freed slaves, the Shong Massacre, the Demerara insurrection, and many other aspects and events.

Together these modules will enable Colonial Williamsburg's historians to conduct comparative research on slavery on a broader scale, both temporally and geographically.

Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Nichols Newspapers Collection

This resource provides access to the newspapers, periodicals, pamphlets, and broadsheets that form the Nichols newspaper collection held at the Bodleian library in Oxford, UK. All 296 volumes of bound material, covering the period 1672-1737, are included. The collection charts the history of the development of the press in England and provides invaluable insight into seventeenth and eighteenth century England. It also contains many references to Virginia!

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

Marianne Martin, Doug Mayo, Sarah Nerney, and Melissa Schutt

Please visit [Friends of John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library](#) for information on how you can help support the Library and don't forget to like and follow us on Facebook: [Rockefeller Library at CW](#).

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