



# The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR LIBRARY

SUMMER 2019

NEWSLETTER

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## NEW BIRD'S EYE VIEWS



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### ***A view of the Governor's Palace captured by library volunteer Wayne Reynolds using his drone.***

The John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library is pleased to announce that it can now provide bird's eye views of the Historic Area! Beginning in May, Wayne Reynolds, one of two official library volunteer photographers, offered to photograph the Historic Area using his drone. Wayne and media collections manager, Tracey Gulden, worked with Karen Stone and Burke Humphrey in the Security and Safety department to ensure drone operations complied with established regulations to safeguard buildings, employees, Historic Area residents, and the public.

Wayne's drone is a DJI Mavic 2 Pro with a Hasselblad camera which uses a one-inch sensor. It's an amazing piece of technology! Not only does it take beautiful photographs, but it is also able to

## NEW BIRD'S EYE VIEWS

(continued)

sense obstacles in front of or behind it making it nearly impossible to hit a person, building or object it may approach. Wayne officially registered his drone with the FAA and became an FAA-certified drone pilot. On June 10th, Wayne, Burke and Tracey met at the back of the Governor's Palace site and commenced photography. Though rain threatened, we were able to proceed, and after approximately 30 minutes of flight time Wayne was able to capture images of the rear of the Palace and surrounding gardens at heights of 40-100 feet above ground. The drone's maiden voyage for the Library was a huge success! We have 18 glorious shots of the Palace, gardens, and maze with a beautiful (rain-free!) sky. All the images are housed in the Rockefeller Library's digital asset management system affectionately known as The Source. Select few images are also offered in the Rockefeller Library's newest database: Media Collections Online or MCO (see related article). We are working on photographing the Capitol and Market Square in the months ahead and will include those images in The Source, MCO, and future newsletters. As always, many thanks to Wayne Reynolds for lending both his technology and expertise to this project. Thanks also to our colleagues in Safety and Security for helping us to literally get off the ground!



***Burke Humphrey watches as the drone begins its mission.***



***Wayne Randolph readying his drone for flight.***

## MEDIA COLLECTIONS ONLINE



### *Homepage for Media Collections Online*

The John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library is pleased to announce the launch of its' new online database, Media Collections Online, or, MCO. MCO currently contains over 850 images of the official photography of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation with new images added daily. Images include beautiful photographs of the Historic Area depicting interior and exterior views of our buildings, animals, carriages, gardens, street scenes, portraits of interpreters, the historic trades, and the fife and drum corps. Objects from the collections of the Rockefeller Library are also represented. These include images of objects from Corporate Archives Collections, Special Collections, Media Collections and Visual Resources. MCO also includes images of objects from the Collections, Conservation and Museums Division. Among these are images of decorative and folk-art pieces, architectural and archaeological objects and items from conservation. The covers from Trend & Tradition as well as images from the magazine's photo essays are stored in MCO.

The images are divided into fourteen categories or subject headings, such as, "Historic Trades" and "Gardens". There are three rotating themed galleries which focus on a topic, such as, "40 Years of African American Interpretation." Users may search by keyword or phrase across the entire database. To access this wealth of photography, sign up for a free account at: <https://images.history.org/> . Registered users may download a free low-resolution watermarked jpeg or purchase a hi-resolution non-watermarked tiff image. In both cases, these digital downloads are for non-commercial personal use or educational/study use only. Researchers wishing to license material for other uses should visit the library's website at: <https://research.history.org/library/visit/visual-resources/reproductions/> .

All proceeds from the sale of our assets go to support the maintenance and preservation of the collections at the Rockefeller Library. So, look and see what you can discover! With new images added every day you never know what you might find!



**Title from the first issue of the Virginia gazette, or, Norfolk intelligencer published in Norfolk, Virginia, June 9, 1774 by William Duncan and Company.**

The John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library has recently acquired nineteen issues of the *Virginia Gazette* to add to its collection of 18th-century newspapers. The issues, all printed in the years 1774 and 1775, were published in Williamsburg and Norfolk. Two of the Norfolk issues were printed by William Duncan and Company, including the first issue printed there on June 9, 1774. The other Norfolk issue was printed by John H. Holt five months before his press was seized by Virginia's last royal governor, Lord Dunmore. The sixteen issues from Williamsburg were printed by Purdie and Dixon, Clementina Rind and John Pinkney. The issues include much of the social, commercial and political news of the day including the growing rift between Great Britain and her mainland North American colonies following the Boston Tea Party of December 6, 1773. Advertisements typically filled a page or more of the Gazettes (regular issues were typically four pages while the supplements or postscripts were two pages in length) and were a major source of revenue for the printers. Advertisements from Williamsburg tradespeople including George LaFong, James Craig, Catherine Rathell and others fill the pages. Several issues from this acquisition are not currently available through our website and we hope to have them imaged and searchable shortly.

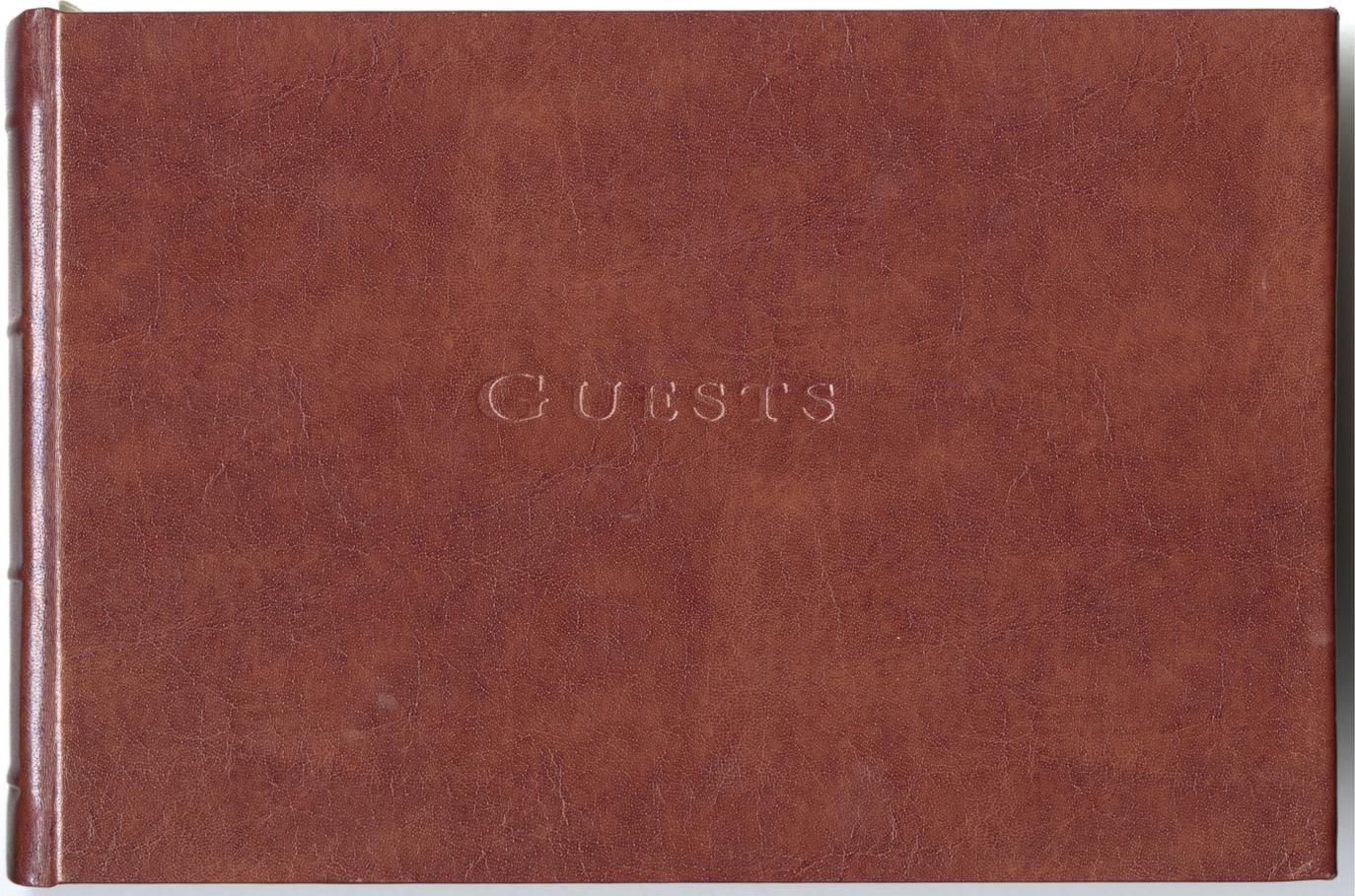
Special Collections holds over four hundred issues of the *Virginia gazettes* published in Norfolk and Williamsburg during the 18th-century and is always looking to add to this collection. Currently, we are working with a vendor to acquire more issues of the *Virginia gazettes* to add to our collection and increase our knowledge of Williamsburg and America's 18th-century past. If you would like to help us in this endeavor, please email Carl Childs, Abby and George O'Neill Director of the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library, at [cchilds@cwf.org](mailto:cchilds@cwf.org).

We wish to thank The Gladys and Franklin Clark Foundation for funding this latest acquisition of nineteen issues of the *Virginia gazette*.

THE printer hereof having lately considerably enlarged her paper, and expecting shortly an elegant set of types from London, of a much smaller size than those used at present, together with all other materials relative to the printing business, and being extremely desirous of supporting the dignity of her gazette, and keeping it at a fixed standard, earnestly requests, that in order to maintain it on this footing, those who may please to favour her with their commands will be punctual in their payments, either to send cash, or settle at the next general court after she receives thier orders. Pay for the paper she by no means requires at the above stated periods; to remit that yearly will be sufficient, at which time she hopes none of her subscribers will neglect her. But advertisements, blanks, and many other kinds of printing work, she ardently hopes, may be discharged at the general courts, which will enable her the better to carry on her paper with that spirit which is so necessary to such an undertaking. To those who have hitherto obliged me with their custom I return my most grateful thanks; as a recompence, it shall ever be particularly my care to give satisfaction, should the public business be continued with me, whereby I may make a tolerable provision for myself and children. I am the public's most obliged and very humble servant,  
CLEMENTINA RIND.

**An advertisement for Williamsburg printer Clementina Rind in her Virginia gazette of May 5, 1774. Rind took on the role of printer of the Virginia gazette and public printer following the death of her husband William.**

GUEST REGISTER FROM “REVEALING THE PRICELESS ...”



***Guest register from the exhibit “Revealing the Priceless ...” now residing in the Corporate Archives section of the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library.***

A recent accession to Corporate Archives of note: the first guest register from “Revealing the Priceless: 40 Years of African American Interpretation” currently on exhibit at the Raleigh Tavern through the end of February 2020. The exhibit chronicles the development of CW’s African American programming and its attempts over the years to tell the story of Williamsburg’s colonial enslaved population. Dating from the exhibit opening in February 2019 through July of the same year, some exhibit visitors chose to simply write in the date of their visit with their names and maybe their places of origin, while others commented how the exhibit had moved them, touched them, or made them think. Excerpted below are some guest comments that illustrate the educational and emotional power of this exhibit.

I am here experiencing what my blood relatives lived. Surely my family owned slaves. Learning about the lives of the enslaved is IMPORTANT. Thank you.

Have always respected and enjoyed programs and interpreters in the AAIP Dept. Odd to learn how limited their presence was when I first visited in 1971. Thank you for what’s now being done!

In today’s day and age, educational opportunities like these are important. I thank Colonial Williamsburg for providing this.

## GUEST REGISTER

(continued)

Thank you for sharing these important stories. As a white woman, I can change my language from “slave” to “enslaved” to respect the identities of those from the past. Thanks for educating me on this slight change in language that makes a huge difference.

Even as an employee who researches and interprets 18th c. history in general on a daily basis, this exhibit impacted me beyond what I expected. These people who I interpret and learn about have been turned from an educational experience to living, breathing, emotional histories. I intend to share this experience with as many guests and coworkers as I can.

In 1992 I visited for the first time. I was 17 and had recently read *Roots*. We went on a tour with an “enslaved woman” who sat and talked about what her life would’ve been like. It was such a powerful experience. The following year I started university in CA. I registered for US history classes and courses in African American studies. I earned a degree in US history and AfAm studies with an emphasis on 19th century American slavery. As a Caucasian woman, people often ask how I ended up on that track and I tell them about my visit in 1992.

The painful memories, the genuine history, showing the culture, the times, the values, the hardships, should inform us in the present. We must learn. Ignorance leads us to wrong conclusions. We cannot change the past. We can only improve the present and work toward a better future.

This exhibit is only the beginning of telling the story of my people. As a relative of the Clarendon County, SC children in *Brown v. Board of Education*, I know too well the stories of hurt, pain, bravery, joy, survival—thriving! Let’s ALL continue to tell the TRUE STORY!

I am inspired. I can’t wait to bring this fire and passion back to my classroom.

This was/is an exceptional way to honor our past and present African American/black/brown history in VA. Make it permanent. And now, what’s next?

## TEACHER INSTITUTE VISITS SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

This summer, Special Collections hosted sixteen groups of teachers attending Colonial Williamsburg’s Teacher Institute. The three hundred plus teachers came to Williamsburg from several states and participated in one of several programs. In addition to the general program, one presentation focused on the American Revolution while there were two sessions each for the programs focusing on women, African Americans and technology. Materials from the rare book, newspaper and manuscript collections were used to introduce primary source materials and explore topics within various session themes.



*Items from the rare book collection being shown to teachers during the summer Teacher Institute program at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.*

The Rockefeller Library will open a new exhibit in September to celebrate the 85th anniversary of the opening of the Governor's Palace in April 1934. Titled 'An Elegant Seat': Building and Re-Building the Governor's Palace, the exhibit is a collaborative effort between library and museum collections staff. It will feature four cases focusing upon the themes of colonial governors, archaeology, architecture, and the reconstruction and opening. Items on display will include Thomas Jefferson's letter to the Board of Trade re moving the capital to Richmond, an excavated silver spoon fabricated by James Geddy, early architectural designs for the Palace, photos of the schools and businesses on the site prior to its reconstruction, and a guest register signed by Winston Churchill and General Eisenhower during their 1946 visit. In addition, a slideshow on the exhibit monitor will rotate through a series of historical photos showing the demolition of Williamsburg High School with the Governor's Palace rising behind it. The exhibit will be on display for six months through April 2020 and is free and open to the public during library hours Monday – Friday from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.

# *“An Elegant Seat:”* Building and Re-Building the Governor's Palace



*Title poster for the forthcoming exhibition on the Governor's Palace.*

## WOMEN OF THE RESTORATION

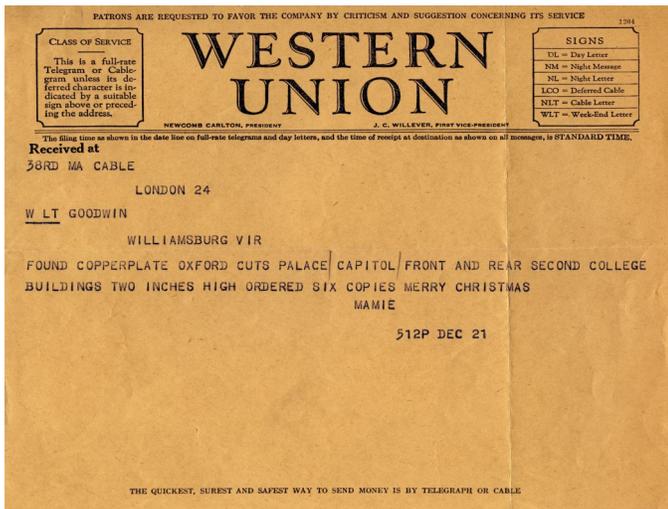
(continued from the Winter 2019 issue)

Mary Frances Goodwin

When the Restoration was being considered in various offices across Williamsburg in the late 1920s, some of the most important questions as yet had no answers. A great deal of historical research was needed to support the Restoration's reconstruction of the buildings of the colonial town. Hired by the Research Department in 1928 thanks to her knowledge of Virginia history and previous research experience, Mary Goodwin was dispatched to England in 1929 for a year to try to solve some of the questions plaguing the Restoration's architects. The biggest question of all concerned what the Governor's Palace and the Capitol actually looked like. Goodwin visited many libraries and archives, but it was at Oxford University's Bodleian Library that she struck gold. Chasing a mysterious reference from a British manuscript guide, there in the Rawlinson Collection she discovered a



**Lantern slide featuring a photograph of an engraving made from the Bodleian plate.**



**Telegram from Mary Goodwin to W.A.R. Goodwin about the discovery of the Bodleian plate, December 21, 1929 .**

10 x 13 ½ inch copperplate engraved with the only known eighteenth-century drawings of the three buildings of the College of William & Mary's Historic Campus, the Governor's Palace, and the Capitol. Goodwin sent her cousin Dr. Goodwin a telegram announcing its discovery, timing its arrival for Christmas Day since she knew what value this news would be to the Restoration project. Mary Goodwin worked for the Restoration for only five years, but during that time gathered a vast amount of research material that was used for years by the historians and architects of the Restoration. Most importantly, she found and identified the copperplate that Dr. Goodwin considered the "greatest find in American Research."

## BEARING WITNESS: SCRAPBOOKS & TRAVEL ALBUMS

### REFLECT WILLIAMSBURG'S GROWTH AS A TOURIST DESTINATION

Today most visitors to Colonial Williamsburg commemorate their experiences instantaneously with photos and comments posted to social media as they tour the Historic Area. Some may create digital or traditional photo albums to share with family and friends as a more lasting and fixed way to recall their visits. The creation of memory books has surged in popularity as a result of the September 11, 2001 tragedy, as well as more recent national and world events.

A century ago, scrapbooks and travel albums were also in vogue and the period from the 1890s-1930s witnessed a rise in the production of many such personal mementoes. The Rockefeller Library holds a number of examples ranging from anonymous albums of pre-restoration photos, to scrapbooks compiled by families who lived in Williamsburg's historic homes, to those documenting the early impressions of tourists between the 1930s-1950s. A recent donation received last year reveals one tourist's love affair with Colonial Williamsburg over the course of much of her adult life in the form of nine meticulously compiled travel albums.

Scrapbooks first became popular in the Victorian era as a place to collect and preserve cards, magazine articles, labels,



*Two photo albums from the Elizabeth Cullinane Photograph Collection.*

autographs, and colorful prints. After the introduction of the Brownie camera in 1900, the photographic medium became more affordable for the average American and allowed photographs to act as a personal diary of activities. Around this same time, Williamsburg's residents began working through organizations such as the APVA to rally efforts to preserve some of the town's eighteenth-century structures and associated history.

## BEARING WITNESS ...

(continued)



Turn-of-the-century albums in the collection reveal local resident's experimentation with photos and notations to record their responses to Williamsburg's historic past. In the Crawford family album, sites like Wetherburn's Tavern are captioned with such notes about its familial ties as "From the windows of which 'Mary Cary' watched Washington ride through town. Her cousins lived in house at the time." Julia Champion Armistead's scrapbook of photos and notes compiled in 1905 reflects initial efforts towards preservation of sites important to Williamsburg's history. The newly erected APVA monument on the site of the Capitol is shown surrounded by the excavated foundations capped with cement. Champion also notes the historic associations of other structures, such as the Peyton Randolph House's role in Lafayette's 1824 visit to America. Frederick Hooker Ball, whose family resided in the Peyton Randolph House in the early 20th-century, compiled another small album that captures life in Williamsburg at the turn of the century. It includes photos of businesses, such as Person's Garage, landmarks, such as the Old Debtor's Prison, and events, such as a Washington's Birthday celebration in front of Public School. No.1.

**Group of photo albums and scrapbooks held by Special Collections, John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library. Top: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schenker Travel Album, 1957, Middle, left to right: Julia Champion Armistead Photo Album, 1905, and Frederick Hooker Ball Photo Album, 1898-1911, accession Bottom, left to right: Adaline M. Humphreys Travel Album, 1938, and page from Crawford Family Photo Album, 1916.**

*Photo by Wayne Reynolds.*

## BEARING WITNESS ...

(continued)

During the first decade of Colonial Williamsburg's existence in the 1930s, visitors could purchase a combination ticket to tour a small group of exhibition buildings. The Rockefeller Library holds several albums capturing the early tourist experience. One of the most entertaining is that created by Adaline Humphreys, who traveled to Williamsburg with her sister, Maude, in 1938 and wrote a lengthy travelogue about her "glorious trip" to accompany travel photos. She describes reaching Williamsburg in the evening and finding it "...most orderly and quiet, most citizens having long since closed their shutters and snuffed their candles." The following day, after touring "...various points of beauty and eminence..." the two dined at the Travis House restaurant, where they noted "The excellence of the Fruit Shrub...has not been equaled in any part of the country."

The post-World War II expansion of Colonial Williamsburg is reflected in the scrapbook of Mr. and Mrs. Schenker. A New York couple who traveled to Williamsburg for their wedding and honeymoon, the Schenkers compiled an album encompassing everything from hotel mementoes to ticket stubs, pamphlets, and postcards. Even the album itself is one they purchased at a Colonial Williamsburg trade shop. The contents document many of the additions to Colonial Williamsburg in the 1950s including the Motor House, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Museum, Brush-Everard House, King's Arms Tavern, and Campbell's Tavern.

The Elizabeth Cullinane Photo Album Collection is a testament to one individual's fascination for Colonial Williamsburg over the course of many decades. After an initial visit in the 1950s, Mrs. Cullinane, a Virginia resident, continued to make regular trips to Williamsburg and began assembling albums to document her favorite features. Several of the albums consist of pages with photos and accompanying brochure text that document the appearance of each structure up and down Duke of Gloucester Street, Nicholson Street and Francis Street. Others focus upon seasonal activities and demonstrations at trade shops. Together, the nine albums offer an in-depth glimpse into details of the Historic Area between the 1950s and 1990s, street-by-street and building-by-building. Her daughter, Susan Lee noted, "It was truly remarkable what she accomplished with a Kodak pocket camera and a manual typewriter."

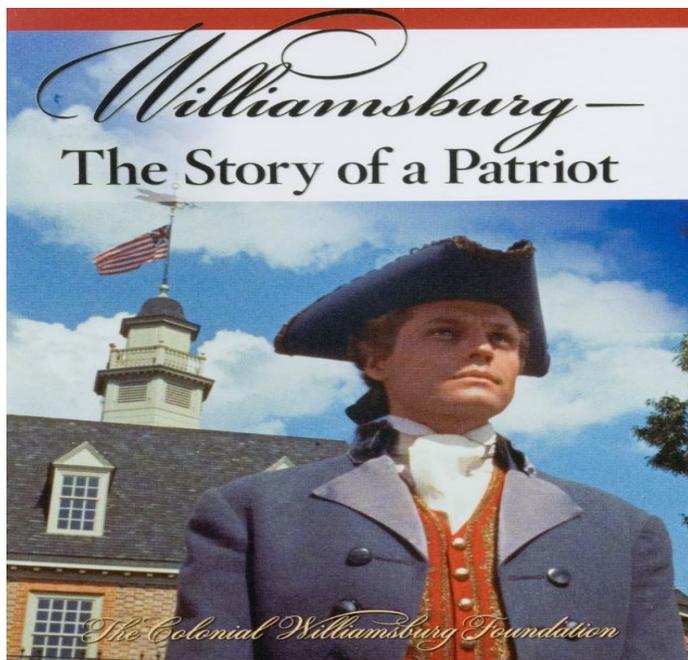
## MUSIC COLLECTIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Did you know that Colonial Williamsburg's musical recordings are accessible in digital format, right from the comfort of your home? Just go to [store.cdbaby.com](http://store.cdbaby.com) and search for "Colonial Williamsburg." There are currently eighteen albums available, with a wide range of styles from fifes and drums to Christmas music to African American songs – and much more. You can listen to samples of the music for free, or purchase tracks (or entire albums) for download to your computer.

These offerings have just been expanded with the addition of a brand-new album of colonial music from the Foundation's own ensemble, The Waterman Family! In their new collection "Welcome Here Again," the Waterman Family have put together fifteen tracks of folk music with Scottish, Irish, French, African, and English influences. The songs are all played with a variety of colonial instruments and techniques. Visit <https://store.cdbaby.com/cd/thewatermanfamily> to check it out! Visitors can also hear the Waterman Family in person at performances throughout the historic area.



## WILLIAMSBURG: THE STORY OF A PATRIOT



*Williamsburg: the story of a patriot* will be shown at the Williamsburg Regional Library Theatre on Monday, September 9. Following the viewing of the forty-five minute film, Dr. Jenna Simpson will discuss the creation of the film and the efforts undertaken to preserve it. The program runs from 7:00-8:00 . Please contact the Williamsburg Regional Library for more information.

Dr. Jenna Simpson is the Assistant Collections Manager in Media Collections of the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. The film was the subject of Dr. Simpson's master's thesis: *Screening the Revolution: Williamsburg, the story of a patriot as historic artifact, history film, and hegemonic struggle* which is available at the John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library.

## COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG PUBLICATIONS ONLINE

[Browse Items](#) [Browse Collections](#)

### Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Publications

This site hosts newsletters, research materials and other items published by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. To see what is published here select the "Browse Collections" link on the menu at the top of this page.

#### Featured Collection

##### Colonial Williamsburg Interpreter



The Colonial Williamsburg Interpreter was a newsletter published July 1980-September 2009 by the education and research departments of Colonial...

#### Recently Added Items

##### John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library newsletter, volume 1, no. 1



The John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library has created a new website to make certain Colonial Williamsburg Foundation publications available online. Currently the *John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library Newsletter* and the *Colonial Williamsburg Interpreter* are available for viewing. We look forward to announcing the addition of more content to the site as it becomes available. To access the website, go to: <https://cwfpublishings.omeka.net/> - .

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

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