

**VIRGINIA INDEPENDENCE BICENTENNIAL
COMMISSION**

REPORT TO

THE GOVERNOR

AND

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA



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The Virginia Independence Bicentennial Preliminary Commission was created by Chapter 698 of the 1966 Acts of Assembly. Pursuant to this, three members were appointed by the Lieutenant Governor from the Senate, five by the Speaker from the House of Delegates, and five by the Governor from the State at large.

In 1968, the Act was amended dropping the word "Preliminary" from the Commission's title, and adding two members to the Commission from the State at large. The Governor accordingly named two additional citizens to serve on the Commission.

A second amendment to the Act approved by the General Assembly in 1971 increased the membership of the Commission to eighteen - one additional State Senator, and two additional members from the House of Delegates. This amendment further provided that members in office on January 1, 1971, and those appointed subsequent thereto, would continue in office until December 31, 1983.

A third amendment in 1972 (H.B. 311) authorized the Commission to enter into certain contracts and to form a nonprofit corporation.

The purpose of the Commission is to develop and coordinate plans of public and private agencies for commemorating the bicentennial of the war of American Independence.

At the first meeting of the Commission, February 17, 1967, Delegate Lewis A. McMurrin, Jr., was elected Chairman; Senator Hunter B. Andrews was elected Vice Chairman at the next meeting, October 20, 1967.

Since 1966, the staff of the Jamestown Foundation has served as secretariat of the Commission. Mr. Parke Rouse, Jr., Executive Director of the Foundation, has served also as director of the Virginia Independence Bicentennial Commission. Mrs. Jacqueline Taylor was named Assistant Director on October 23, 1972.

The staff now includes two historians, a youth coordinator, an accountant, two clerks and an information officer.

The following report is submitted as called for in Section 7, of the above-mentioned Acts of Assembly, as amended.

Section 1: Personnel

The following have been appointed to the Commission, pursuant to Section 1 of the Act:

By the President of the Senate:
Senator Hunter B. Andrews
Hon. Fred W. Bateman
Hon. Garland Gray
Senator Omer Lee Hirst

Hampton
Newport News
Waverly
Annandale

By Speaker Moore of the House:

Delegate John Warren Cooke	Mathews
Congressman W. C. Daniel	Danville
Delegate Frank E. Mann	Alexandria
Delegate Lewis A. McMurrin, Jr.	Newport News
Hon. Sam E. Pope	Drewryville

By Speaker Cooke of the House:

Hon. John Sears, Jr.	Norfolk
Hon. Benjamin H. Woodbridge, Jr.	Fredericksburg

By the Governor from the State at large:

Mr. A. E. Dick Howard	Charlottesville
Hon. W. Moscoe Huntley	Richmond
Mr. E. M. Hutton	Alexandria
Mrs. Carolyn Moses Lusardi	Brookneal
Mrs. Perry W. Moore	Williamsburg
Mr. Jack C. Smith	Roanoke
Mr. John C. Stephens, Jr.	Yorktown

Section 2: Executive Committee and Advisory Council

The Commission has named an executive Committee, as follows:

Senator Hunter B. Andrews	Delegate Lewis A. McMurrin, Jr.
Mr. A. E. Dick Howard	Hon. John Sears, Jr.
Hon. W. Moscoe Huntley	Mr. Jack C. Smith
Delegate Frank E. Mann	

The Commission has also named an advisory council, which currently includes the following members:

Mr. James Bear	Charlottesville
General Edwin L. Cox	Aylett
Mr. Elbert Cox	Richmond
Admiral Irving T. Duke	Stratford
Mrs. Robert V. H. Duncan	Alexandria
Mr. Junius P. Fishburne, Jr.	Richmond
Mr. Douglas B. Fugate	Richmond
Mr. Carlisle H. Humelsine	Williamsburg
Mr. Charles S. Marshall	Williamsburg
Mr. Robert A. Murdock	Richmond
Capt. Walter W. Price	Lorton
Mr. Marvin Sutherland	Richmond
Mr. Charles C. Wall	Mount Vernon

Section 3: Coordination of Public and Private Planning

In order to "develop and coordinate plans of public and private agencies for commemorating the Bicentennial," the Commission has:

1. Held a Statewide Virginia Bicentennial Forum on September 17, 1971, at the Hotel John Marshall in Richmond, to which Governor Holton invited all counties, cities, and towns in the Commonwealth, plus appropriate historical, patriotic, civic, and cultural organizations, to send members. At the meeting, general plans for the Virginia observance were presented, and individual phases and problems were discussed in afternoon workshops. A second Statewide Forum is planned for April 1, 1974, at the Hotel Roanoke, the workshops of which are to be determined by a tabulation of suggestions received from local organizations. A number of statewide youth organizations will send representatives, and it is hoped that a consortium can be developed to involve all the young people of Virginia in Bicentennial-related programs.

2. Publicized VIBC plans and programs by direct response to inquiries, newspaper and magazine articles, and the ARBC's computerized information network, BINET.

3. Included in its budget request, funds to be turned over to the Virginia State Travel Service for Bicentennial advertisements. These advertisements will urge visitors to see the Yorktown Victory Center, the Northern Virginia Bicentennial Center at Alexandria, and the Western Virginia Bicentennial Center at Charlottesville. They will also encourage visits to the lesser-known historical attractions — in addition to the major ones — thereby disbursing visitors and encouraging maximum total length of stay in Virginia.

4. Established a Virginia Independence Bicentennial Newsletter, distributed bimonthly to over 2,500 individuals and/or organizations, consisting of six pages and basically reporting on the activities and publications of the VIBC, as well as of local bicentennial groups, other state commissions, federal agencies, and national organizations.

5. Provided speakers for meetings of historical societies, patriotic groups, youth groups, educational institutions, and civic clubs, and taken part in various Bicentennial-related programs and presentations arranged by the ARBC within Virginia.

6. Appointed a committee to work with the Virginia Department of Highways in developing a Bicentennial Map, pinpointing geographic locations of Revolutionary significance, with appropriate legends, keys, and inserts, including a brief chronology of the War. This is to be used as the reverse of the Virginia Highway map for 1975 and 1976, with a planned distribution of 3,000,000. The committee members are:

Mr. Elie Weeks
General Edwin Cox
Mr. Robert Lancaster

Manakin Sabot
Aylett
Ashland

Section 3(b): Coordination of its activities with similar activities of other states and the federal government . . .

1. Established and maintained contact with the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, participating, wherever practicable, in their nationwide program.

2. Joined with the Bicentennial Commissions of the District of Columbia and Maryland in urging the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission to center much of the national celebration in the Nation's capitol.

3. Endorsed and supported the efforts of the Governor's Industrial Development Board toward establishing a permanent exposition of Science and Industry on a 640-acre tract north of Dulles Airport.

4. Joined with the Bicentennial Agencies of the other 12 original states in establishing the Bicentennial Council of the Thirteen Original States. Meetings of this Council have been held in Newport, Rhode Island; Raleigh, North Carolina; Williamsburg; Savannah, Georgia; Annapolis, Maryland; Charleston, South Carolina; Princeton, New Jersey; Durham, New Hampshire; Sea Island, Georgia; Hartford, Connecticut; Wilmington, Delaware; and Hershey, Pennsylvania. The Council will meet in Williamsburg in February, during the Bicentennial Debates Tournament, and in Alexandria in July, to commemorate the bicentennial of the Fairfax Resolves and to celebrate the opening of the Northern Virginia Bicentennial Center there.

5. Met with representatives of institutional commissions to create a consortium to plan regional projects for North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

6. Continued contact with the George Rogers Clark Trail Association, which has now formed a formal foundation within three states (Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky) and hopes eventually to include Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania.

7. Met with representatives of the U.S. Department of the Navy to begin plans for an International Naval Review in Hampton Roads in 1981.

8. Solicited and received the cooperation of the British Government, which has made the services of a full-time research assistant available to our designers for the period of one year.

9. Solicited and received expressions of interest in active participation on the part of the Government of France.

Section 3(c): Encouragement and assistance to local governing bodies, patriotic societies, historical societies and other interested groups . . .

1. Endorsed an offer by the Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution to have Jack Clifton, Hampton artist, produce a painting of "The Adoption of the Bill of Rights," to be presented to the State Capitol, with a part of the accompanying plaque reading: "in accord with the Virginia Independence Bicentennial Commission." This painting will be submitted for Art Commission approval on Friday, February 1, 1974, and unveiled at the Capitol on March 12.

2. Encouraged all counties, cities, and towns to create bicentennial planning bodies and to develop their own programs for the period, while cooperating with State and Federal Commissions.

3. Reviewed and acted on city and county requests for status as Bicentennial Communities. At this writing, the following are so designated by the ARBC: Hampton, Alexandria, Lynchburg, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Surry, Gloucester, York, Brookneal, Brunswick, and Portsmouth.

4. Named the Jamestown Corporation, producers of "The Common Glory," as the official drama agency for the Bicentennial in Virginia.

Section 3(d): Scholarly Publications

In order to develop a "program of scholarly publications" the commission has created an Advisory Committee of Historians, consisting currently of the following:

Dr. Francis Berkeley, Jr.	University of Virginia
Dr. Alf J. Mapp, Jr.	Old Dominion University
Mr. A. E. Dick Howard	University of Virginia Law School
Mr. John Jennings	Virginia Historical Society
Dr. William F. Swindler	College of William and Mary
Dr. Edward M. Riley	Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
Dr. George Reese	University of Virginia
Dr. Louis B. Manarin	Virginia State Library

On the recommendation of this Committee, the Commission has inaugurated three major historical projects:

1. Publication of basic documents relating to the onset and conduct of the Revolution in Virginia, the adoption of State and Federal Constitutions, and the creation of State and Federal governments. To assemble, edit and prepare these volumes for publication, the VIBC originally engaged the late Dr. William J. Van Schreeven, at that time State Archivist. On his death in 1971, the Commission engaged Dr. Robert L. Scribner to continue the work.

Revolutionary Virginia: The Road to Independence, 1763-1776. The following are included in the first of this series. Volume I. "The Forming Thunderclouds: Through the First Convention, 1763-1774, A Documentary Record," which was published in November.

Address and Representation of the House of Burgesses to Lieutenant Governor Fauquier in Defense of Issuing Paper Money, 28 May 1763

Address, Memorial, and Remonstrance of the General Assembly to King, Lords and Commons Respectively in Opposition to a Proposed Stamp Tax, 18 December 1764

Resolutions Offered by Patrick Henry in Condemnation of the Stamp Act, 29-30 May 1765

Resignation of the Magistrates of Westmoreland County in Protest against the Stamp Act, 24 September 1765

- Nullification of the Stamp Act by the Magistrates of Northampton County, 11 February 1766
- Resolutions of the Westmoreland Association in Defiance of the Stamp Act, 27 February 1766
- An Inquiry by Colonel Richard Bland, circa 14 March 1766
- Resolutions of the Sons of Liberty of the Borough and the County of Norfolk in Defiance of the Stamp Act, 31 March 1766
- Proclamation of Lieutenant Governor Fauquier Announcing Repeal of the Stamp Act, 9 June 1766
- Address, Memorial and Remonstrance of the General Assembly to King, Lords, and Commons Respectively in Opposition to the Quartering and the Townshend Acts, 16 April 1768
- A Hint of Sentiments by a British American, 4 May 1769
- Resolves of the House of Burgesses Upholding the Rights to Tax and to Petition and Condemning a Resolution of Parliament, 16 May 1769
- Nonimportation Association of the Former Burgesses, 18 May 1769
- Nonimportation Association of Burgesses and Merchants, 22 June 1770
- Address of the House of Burgesses to the King in Opposition to the Slave Trade, 1 April 1772
- Resolutions of the House of Burgesses Establishing a Committee of Inter-Colonial Correspondence, 12 March 1773
- Resolution of the House of Burgesses Designating a Day of Fasting and Prayer, 24 May 1774
- Association of Former Burgesses, with a Proposal to Hold Annual General Congresses, 27 May 1774
- The Convention of 1774: The Decision, 30 May
- The Convention of 1774: The Summons, 31 May
- Fasting and Prayer: *Psalms* 103:19, 1 June 1774
- Observations on Conditions and on Some Tractarians and Others in the Virginia Colonial Twilight, June-August 1774: An Editorial Note
- The Convention of 1774: Resolutions and Instructions by County and Corporate Freeholders and Others, 1 June-28 July

- Letters of the British American, Nos. IV-IX, 16 June-28 July
- A Plea for Moderation by the King's Attorney General, circa early July
- The Convention of 1774: A List of Delegates Eligible and of Those Who Probably Attended, 1-6 August
- The Convention of 1774: The Convocation, 1 August
- The Convention of 1774: Newspaper Notices, 4-5 August
- The Convention of 1774: The Election of Deputies to Attend a General Congress, 5 August
- The Convention of 1774: The Association, 6 August.
- The Convention of 1774: Instructions to the Deputies Elected to Attend the General Congress, 6 August
- The Convention of 1774: Prologue as Epilogue, or a Summary View by Thomas Jefferson, circa 8 August
- Strictures on the Attorney General's Plea for Moderation, by Mr. Treasurer Nicholas, circa 25 August 1774
- The Epilogue Prefaced, in an Address to the King by Tribunus, 1774

Two related publications have been published:

The farmer's and Monitor's Letters to the Inhabitants of the British Colonies, being a facsimile of William Rind's 1769 edition of the letters of John Dickinson and Arthur Lee, with a preface by Richard Henry Lee and an introduction by Dr. William J. Van Schreeven.

The Cornwallis Papers: Abstracts of Americana. A detailed listing of the papers of Cornwallis in the American War of Independence, in the Virginia Colonial Records Microfilms compiled by Dr. George Reese.

2. Publication of a series of 25 studies of the leading Virginia statesmen, generals, and developments of the Revolutionary period, under the overall editorship of Dr. Edward M. Riley, as follows:

Volume I: *Virginia and the War of Independence*

- Chronology of Virginia, 1763-1783, by John E. Selby, Department of History, College of William and Mary. Published in 1973 as an individual booklet.
- The Expulsion of Lord Dunmore, by John E. Selby. Manuscript completed.
- Virginia's Constitution of 1776 and the Declaration of Rights, by A. E. Dick Howard, School of Law, University of Virginia
- Patrick Henry and the War of Independence, by Miss Jane D. Carson, Research Associate, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.
- George Mason and the War of Independence, by Robert A. Rutland, Coordinator of Bicentennial Programs, Library of Congress, Editor, The Papers of James Madison, Charlottesville. Ms. in hand.
- Social Life in Virginia, 1774-1783, by Miss Elizabeth Cometti, Department of History, West Virginia University. Ms. in hand.
- Bibliography of Virginia in the War of Independence, by Harold B. Gill, Jr., Research Associate, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

- Arthur Lee and the War for Independence, by A. R. Riggs, McGill University, Montreal, Canada. Ms. in hand.
- William Lee and the War of Independence, by Alonzo T. Dill, Director of Public Relations, Chesapeake Corporation. Ms. in hand.
- The Role of Tobacco in Financing the War of Independence in Virginia, by Marshall Booker, Christopher Newport College. Ms. in hand.

Volume II: *Virginia Military in the War of Independence*

- The Virginia Continental Line in the War of Independence, by John R. Sellers, Bicentennial Programs, Library of Congress. Ms. in hand.
- Virginia Continental Generals other than Washington, by John R. Sellers.
- George Washington and the War of Independence, by Donald Jackson, Editor, Papers of George Washington, Charlottesville, Ms. in hand.
- The Virginia Negro in the War for Independence, by Edgar Toppin, Department of History, Virginia State College.
- The Virginia Navy in the War of Independence, by Charles B. Cross, Jr. Clerk of the Circuit Court of the City of Chesapeake. Ms. in hand.
- Military Campaigns in Virginia before 1781, by Hugh F. Rankin, Department of History, Tulane University.
- George Rogers Clark and the Winning of the West, by Hugh F. Rankin, Ms. in hand.
- The Virginia Campaign and the Siege of Yorktown, by Edward M. Riley, Director of Research, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

Volume III: *Virginia Signers of the Declaration of Independence*

- Carter Braxton and the War of Independence, by Alonzo T. Dill. Ms. in hand.
- Benjamin Harrison and the War of Independence, by Howard W. Smith, Chairman, Department of History, Spring Hill College.
- Thomas Jefferson and the War of Independence, by Merrill D. Peterson, Chairman, Department of History, University of Virginia. Ms. in hand.
- Francis Lightfoot Lee and the War of Independence, by Mrs. Constance Wyrick, historian, Stratford Hall.
- Richard Henry Lee and the War of Independence, by John C. Matthews, Professor of American History, Towson State College. Ms. in hand.
- Thomas Nelson, Jr., and the War of Independence, by Emory G. Evans, Chairman, Department of History, Northern Illinois University.
- George Wythe and the War of Independence, by E. M. Hutton, Administrative Assistant to the Honorable Thomas N. Downing.

3. Indexing of the Colonial Records Survey of all Virginia-related records found in the British Isles and in European archives during a search conducted under auspices of the Virginia 350th Anniversary Commission from 1954 to

1959. This index will make these records significantly more valuable, in that it will make them readily accessible to researchers. Historian John D. Neville has been engaged by the VIBC for this project, and he has prepared a cross-reference (from the old to the new numbering systems), which will enable the University of Virginia and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation to use the index without renumbering their reports. The State Library Board is cooperating in this project by furnishing office space, materials and facilities.

Section 3(e): Encouragement of the development of scenic parkways.

1. Petitioned the Governor of Virginia, by resolution, to request the President of the United States to urge completion of Piscataway National Park on the Maryland shore of the Potomac River, immediately opposite Mount Vernon. A bill, introduced by the late Congressman John Saylor of Kansas, is nearing presentation on the floor of Congress. This would complete the Park by a taking of Marshall Hall, as well as 330 acres currently held by the Tri-Cent Corporation, with negotiated settlement to be based on the value at the time of taking. This bill would also expand the boundaries of the Park to include the present marina.

2. Urged the National Park Service by resolution to acquire Ferry Farm, boyhood home of George Washington, and to develop and designate it as a National Shrine. This recommendation has received the endorsement of all members of Congress from Virginia but no formal action has been taken by that body.

3. Investigated the possibility of the National Park Service's acquiring James Monroe's birthplace in Westmoreland and, on the basis of that investigation, recommended to the Westmoreland Board of Supervisors that they assume responsibility for the site and apply for funds for its improvements under the Land and Water Act. In October 1973 the County took title to the land by Court Order and is currently pursuing this project, through a corporation newly formed for that purpose.

4. Continued to encourage the development of a bicycle path connecting Jamestown, Williamsburg and Yorktown.

Section 3(f): Promotion of educational activities of interest to young people.

1. Invited the participation of classroom teachers, through kits distributed from the VIBC booth at the VEA convention in October. These kits included a letter from Governor Holton, urging classroom participation, teacher questionnaires, and a facsimile of the Declaration of Independence with information about each of the Virginia signers. Approximately 2,000 distributed.

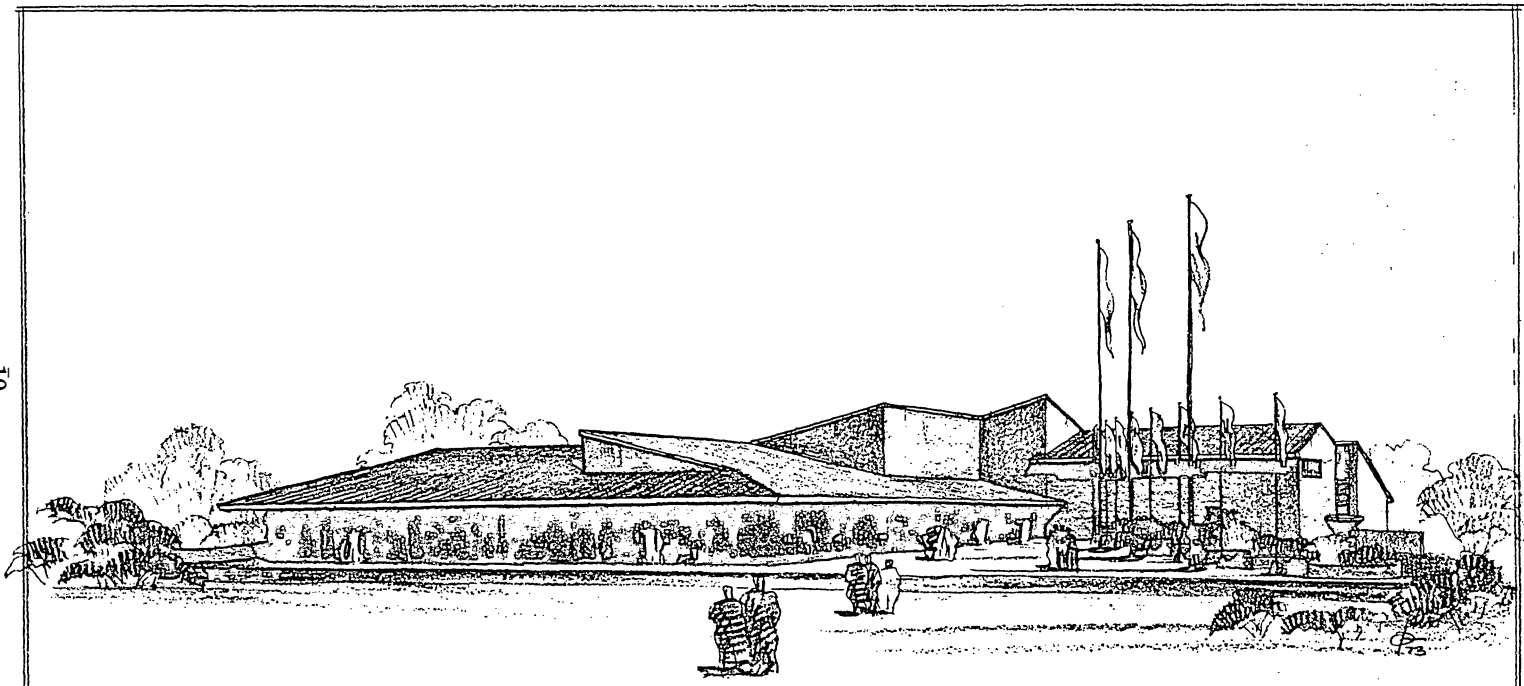
2. Initiated a national high school Bicentennial Debate Program, sponsored by the Bicentennial Council of the Thirteen Original States. The first tournaments will be held in Williamsburg, February 5, 6, 7, and 8, 1974, among debaters from each of the 13 original states. With the cooperation of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, final rounds will be held in the House of Burgess' chamber of the Colonial Capitol. The Virginia District Exchange Clubs have paid for the rotating trophy, and it is anticipated that this program will be expanded in 1975 to include those states carved from the original 13, and in 1976 to include debaters from all 50 states.

3. Appointed a youth coordinator to explore the possibilities of: establishing a statewide young people's bicentennial commission; developing a newsletter directed to the youth of Virginia and distributed through existing organizations; the development and/or distribution of new curricula in

cooperation with the Department of Education; and the development of a junior historical society.

Section 3a: "Purchase Lands . . . for the celebration . . ."

The Yorktown Victory Center is planned by the VIBC as the principal center of the 1976-83 observance in Virginia. In addition, two smaller centers are planned: The Northern Virginia Bicentennial Center at Alexandria, and the Western Virginia Bicentennial Center at Charlottesville. The Yorktown Victory Center is conceived as a permanent State attraction; the others will be operated by the Commonwealth for the duration of the celebration period, as stipulated by the General Assembly, through 1983. Their structures will then be devoted to other public purposes.



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BALLOU AND JUSTICE
ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS

YORKTOWN

Location: A handsome 21-acre tract, generously donated to the Commonwealth by Mr. and Mrs. Nick Mathews of Yorktown. The site is an enclave within the Colonial National Historical Park, fronting on Virginia Route 238 and overlooking the York River and the Welsh Fusiliers' redoubt. It is between the intersections of Virginia Route 238 with the Colonial National Park and U.S. Route 17. Virginia Route 238 also connects with Interstate 64 and U.S. Route 60 and Virginia Route 143 in the Lee Hall area.

Proposed Traffic Pattern: The VIBC plans, in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Highways and the National Park Service, to effect entrance to and exit from the Victory Center on Virginia Route 238, opposite the Welsh Fusiliers' redoubt near the middle of the straightaway. This would be accomplished by relocating the Colonial Parkway turnoff, to which the National Park Service has agreed, with the stipulation that the area to be surfaced shall first be trenched for archaeological examination. With this restriction, the NPS has filed a negative Environmental Impact Statement.

A two-way traffic pattern will be provided between the Victory Center at the east end of Yorktown and the NPS Visitor Center at the west end. Tourists would be encouraged to park their cars at the Victory Center (750-car parking space) or at the NPS Visitor Center (more than 150 parking spaces) and use the shuttle buses to visit (1) Water Street (2) Main Street, with its Nelson House, Swan Tavern, Customs House, Digges House, Somerwell House, etc. (3) Victory Monument and (4) the National Park Service Visitor Center for its film and exhibits, backgrounding the Siege of Yorktown. A National Park Service bus would provide a battlefield tour, including (1) the British inner works (2) The Grand French Battery (3) The First Allied siege line (4) Redoubts 9 and 10 (5) The Moore House and (6) Surrender Field. This bus route would then lead back to the National Park Service Visitor Center, where the shuttle bus could be boarded to the Yorktown Victory Center.

Proposed Landscape Treatment: The VIBC feels that the Yorktown Victory Center should be consonant with the Park Service's concept of a natural treatment of the siege area. Thus, it would screen the Victory Center from the adjoining road by leaving present trees and by placing parking, picnicking areas, and the Victory Center building as far back from the road as possible. A low-level building to harmonize with the environment and take advantage of the natural topography is planned. Steps will be taken to prevent infringement of the rear of the Center area on the York Creek marshes, which adjoin it. Plans as developed by Ballou and Justice, architects, and Kenneth Higgins, landscape architect, have been approved by the Art Commission.

Proposed Exhibit Treatment: Throughout the exhibit area, the visitor will feel a sense of personal involvement in the events of the Revolution. Rather than viewing a series of episodes from the past, he will feel that he is experiencing a part of his own life which has meaning and importance for him today. Visuals and audio scripts will be designed to help the visitor realize a personal identity with the flesh-and-blood people who guided America toward Independence. The exhibit design plan, as developed by Design and Production, Inc. of Virginia, and E. and E. G. Wilson of England, and approved by the VIBC, will include the following:

To encourage the visitor to enter the paid admission area, the exhibit entrance is treated as a street corner in a colonial town in Tidewater, Virginia, designated Liberty Street. As the visitor enters the exhibit area, he proceeds down the sloping cobblestone (or brick) street, passing several houses and shops. From them come the voices and sounds of 18th century everyday life—a mother calling her family to supper, someone practicing on the harpsichord,

horse's hooves on the cobblestones, a barking dog, and farm animals in the distance.

The Growth of Resistance, 1764-1773: At the foot of Liberty Street the visitor encounters the office of the Virginia *Gazette*. The editor begins to speak in sharp indignant tones about the latest outrage of the British Crown - the granting of a tea monopoly to the East India Company. As he recounts this and earlier oppressive acts despite the efforts of Virginia and the other colonies in winning Canada and Florida for the British Crown the light dims on the *Gazette* office and projected images illustrate the rising tide of colonial resistance during the previous decade. The script and visuals are designed to create a mood of suspenseful anticipation - "The way things are going, anything could happen." Content includes: (a) Tea Party background: East India Company monopoly, (b) 1764 resistance to Sugar Act, (c) 1765 resistance to Stamp Act, (d) 1768 resistance to Townshend duties, (e) 1769 Washington introduces resolves in Virginia House of Burgesses, (f) 1770 Boston Massacre, (g) 1772 Burning of the *Gaspee*, (h) 1773, Committees of Correspondence.

The Boston Tea Party: (December 16, 1773) The visitor proceeds along a country path. Up ahead there is a light at a wharf's edge; projected on the pathway are the words "Boston Harbor is where it all began." Water laps the quay side; there are sounds of seagulls and a buoy bell. Two iron bollards support a chain barrier. Fading into view is a model of Boston harbor with several ships at anchor. Rowboats are approaching filled with men. Cutting to the second model, we have now zoomed in closer; the ships are larger, the rowboats are alongside. The men are quiet as they climb the side of the ship. Now the third model lights. The men are aboard — it can be clearly seen that they are dressed like "Indians". There is a frenzy of excitement and war whoops as the tea party seizes the cargo. The fourth model lights. "Indians" are at the rails tossing tea into the sea. The harbor is filled with floating chests. There are shouts from the raiding party as the last model fades from view.

Peace is in the Balance, 1774: The aftermath of the Boston Tea Party is described by the narrator as the visitor moves to the next station. A sound and light build-up presentation brings into view a succession of still-life settings and back-lit graphics illustrating the events in the Colonies during the uneasy year of 1774: (a) Lord North calls for punishment, (b) Port of Boston is closed, (c) Other colonies rally to the cause of Boston, (d) Virginia calls for a Continental Congress, and (e) first Congress meets in Philadelphia, September 1774.

Fighting Begins: The visitor is next drawn toward the open flap of a large command tent. Inside the tent are benches, and suspended from the tent poles are the paraphernalia of war. A fast-paced presentation appears on the screen before us as the shots ring out from Lexington and Concord. We follow the action through the first fifteen months of the struggle: (a) Lexington and Concord, (b) Bunker Hill, (c) Ticonderoga, (d) Washington takes command, (e) The Canadian venture, (f) Norfolk loyalists aid Dunmore, The Battle of Great Bridge, the town burned, (g) North Carolina loyalists crushed at Moore's Creek, (h) Dunmore expelled at Gwynn's Island, (i) Charleston, (j) British evacuate Boston, and the tent theater program ends as the British concentrate their forces in New York.

Independence is Declared: The intense activity of the war is interrupted by a mood of thoughtful dedication. Confronting the visitor as he leaves the command tent is a richly carpeted alcove containing a huge reproduction of the Declaration of Independence. As the narrator describes events in Philadelphia leading to independence, graphic scenes are illuminated in sequence and can be seen through the huge document: (a) Edmund Pendleton introduces Resolutions for Independence, (b) Richard Henry Lee moves for Independence

in Continental Congress, (c) Jefferson completes the draft, (d) Congress adopts, and (e) the signing.

The War Proceeds in Agony: The progress of the war is portrayed in a special display combining the descriptive words of actual participants, lifesize enlargements of battle scenes, and three-dimensional objects suggestive of the battlefield. The grimness of the struggle is expressed by those who suffered through it - on all sides: (a) Loss of New York, (b) Washington retreats through New Jersey to Pennsylvania, (c) Crosses the Delaware and gains some victories, (d) Burgoyne surrenders at Saratoga, (e) Valley Forge symbolizes the ordeal of war and determination of the Continentals, (f) The French Alliance, and (g) the frontier aflame - George Rogers Clark at Vincennes, Indiana.

The Final Campaign: The visitor now reaches the climax of the war story. On a large screen the movements and counter-movements of the opposing armies are shown with fade and dissolve slide projection. As the French fleet arrives and establishes its blockade, a diorama of the scene comes into view beside the screen. The projected story continues through the ceremonies on Surrender Field. As the story ends, a back-lit reproduction of the Signing of the Treaty of Paris comes into view. Content of this exhibit includes: (a) Cornwallis in the Carolinas; pursues Lafayette in Virginia; digs in at Yorktown to hold a port for the British fleet, (b) De Grasse arrives, drives off British fleet, (c) Washington and Rochambeau head their troops toward Virginia, (d) the trap is sprung; Cornwallis surrenders, (e) a new nation established; the Treaty of Paris of 1783.

Those Who Fought: With the battlefields behind him, the visitor now moves into the first of three exhibits describing the participants. Beyond a low wall of brick and stone, groups of uniformed figures revolve slowly on circular pedestals; mirrored ends make the figures appear to revolve into infinity; (A) For the Crown: (1) British regulars, (2) American and Canadian loyalists and (3) Hessian mercenaries; (B) For Independence: (1) Continentals, (2) State militias and state troops, (3) Allies - French, Dutch, Spanish, and (4) Black Americans.

Resources of the Two Sides: The circular movement of the uniformed figures is picked up in this next display. The comparative resources of the two sides are displayed on a revolving drum: (a) population, (b) men under arms, and (c) fighting ships.

Virginia's Role in Independence: A long cabinet display tells the visitor of the special role Virginians played in achieving independence. Small objects, portraits and engravings identify individuals and events: (a) advancing the English heritage of self-government, (b) planting the seeds of separation — Patrick Henry, calling first Continental Congress, Resolves of Independence, (c) Opening the West — Doctor Thomas Walker and Daniel Boone, George Rogers Clark, (d) Asserting the rights of man — Mason's Declaration of Rights and Virginia Constitution and the Bill of Rights in various constitutions including the United States.

Virginians who led the way to Independence: As the visitor leaves the exhibition hall, he passes a whole procession of notable Virginians who helped bring the nation into being: Washington, Jefferson, Mason, Pendleton, Richard Henry Lee, Peyton Randolph, Edmund Randolph, George Rogers Clark, Daniel Morgan, Madison, John Paul Jones, Richard Bland, George Wythe, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Nelson, Francis Lightfoot Lee, Carter Braxton and others.

As the visitor leaves this exhibit area, he will be in a hall designed to accommodate international exhibits and to serve as a holding area for the three theaters, in which a special film, "The Road to Yorktown", will be shown at ten-minute intervals.

Proposed Function: The Victory Center is conceived by the VIBC as fulfilling three major functions: (1) To serve as an overall Virginia welcome center and encourage visits to other areas of the Commonwealth, (2) to provide background as to how and why Allied and British forces converged at Yorktown and what the consequences were to the world, and (3) to prevent traffic congestion by concentrating vehicular traffic and enabling visitors to see the Yorktown area by means of shuttle bus. Interpretation of the Yorktown siege will be left to the Colonial National Historical Park.

Proposed Services: In support of these functions, the Victory Center will be developed in a form comparable, on a smaller scale, to the Colonial Williamsburg Information Center. It will include (1) large-scale free parking for private vehicles and buses, (2) a large, modern, air-conditioned building, encompassing all necessary comforts, (3) general information desk, (4) accommodations and reservations desk, (5) publications, film, slide and mailing desks, (6) refreshment area for light lunches and snacks, (7) picnic area, by virtue of a Special Use permit, on adjoining National Park Service property, (8) three movie theaters of approximately 125 seats each, screening "The Road to Yorktown," and (9) exhibits as outlined above.

Financing: The VIBC plans to charge a moderate admission fee for the exhibit area of the Victory Center which would entitle the visitor to see the exhibits, view the film, and board the shuttle bus. It is hoped that proceeds from tickets, publications and audio-visual sales, and refreshment services will substantially repay to the Commonwealth General Fund the annual costs of operation.



CARROLL C. CURTICE '73

ALEXANDRIA

For the Northern Virginia Bicentennial Center at Alexandria, the Commission is creating an information center in conjunction with that city's restoration of the Lyceum, scheduled to open July 11, 1974, for the 200th anniversary of George Mason's Fairfax Resolves. This center will offer the public services provided by the first section of the Yorktown Victory Center: (1) general information desk, (2) accommodations and reservations desk, (3) publications, film, slides and mailing desks, (4) restrooms and first aid facilities.

The visitor is led to the information center by a colonnade alongside the Lyceum where he will purchase his tickets to the exhibit area and then proceed to the first floor of the Lyceum via an enclosed walkway connecting the two buildings. Visitors to this center will be encouraged to visit major and lesser-known sites in Northern Virginia and throughout the rest of the State.

Exhibit treatment: In the Northern Virginia Bicentennial Center at Alexandria, our theme will illustrate how the lives and activities of the great families prepared them for their vital roles of leadership in the cause of independence. Because many visitors coming to Northern Virginia will be unfamiliar with the special role this area played in the American Revolution, the exhibits will define the Northern Neck geographically, trace its colonial history, and highlight its plantations, mansions, and historic towns of Alexandria and Fredericksburg. Most importantly, the exhibits will add reality and dimension to the men and women who molded this nation's history, and will help the visitor understand how these leaders turned from aristocratic plantation societies to formulate democratic principles for the American republic.

The Roots of Independence: As the visitor turns into the first exhibit area he encounters a dramatic setting featuring a white model figure seated at a desk. It is young Thomas, Lord Fairfax, reviewing a land grant in his Oxford room. He has just learned that the proprietorship of Virginia's Northern Neck has passed to him upon the death of his mother, Lady Catherine. Appropriate copy explains the English roots of the Northern Neck proprietary, from the original granting of land by Charles II in 1649, to the inheritance of Fairfax in 1719.

Virginia's English Heritage: From Virginia's landed, ruling class came a generation of democrats and revolutionaries in the eighteenth century. Their heritage was English, but their life in Virginia afforded them unique experience for the role they would play in American independence. Born to a society in which land was the basis of wealth and leadership, the less, Masons and Washingtons also accepted their own roles in public service and government as a personal responsibility. Through years of public service they learned both the benefits and evils of government. In the words of Henry Adams, they "were equal to any standard of excellence known to history. Their range was narrow, but within it, they were supreme."

Northern Virginia's Land, Rivers, and Plantations: Brief narrated slide presentation using photographs, engravings, and audiovisual presentation describing: (1) the settlement of Northern Virginia, (2) the role of the rivers, (3) Tobacco in Virginia's economy, (4) the plantation system, (5) self-sufficiency of plantations, and (6) English influence on intellectual life and culture.

Beneath the slide screen is a 1755 map of Northern Virginia with the rivers and inlets clearly visible, and the bounds of the Fairfax Proprietary clearly delineated. Three-dimensional objects related to plantation life are displayed: tobacco barrel, fish net, bag of grain, farm implements, small objects of pewter, silver and ceramic.

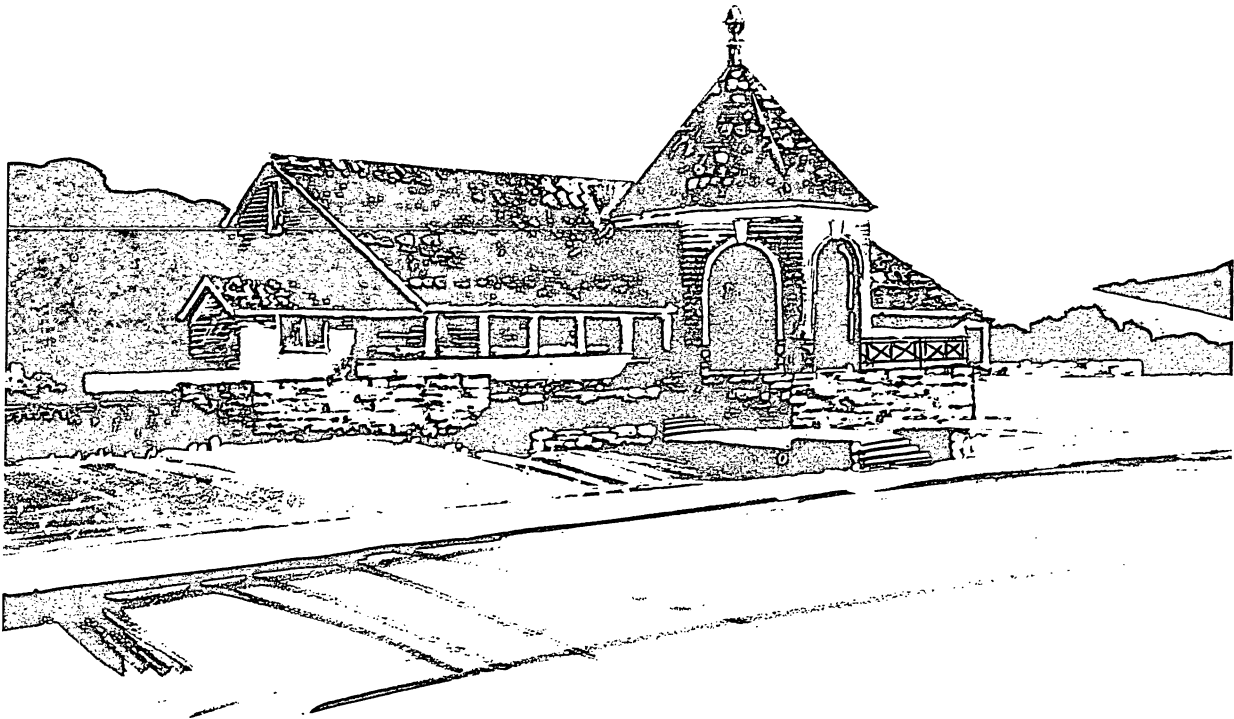
The Planter Families and their Estates: The great house was the core of the plantation, serving as home, business office and social center. The planter's furnishing reflected the best English styles becoming a country gentleman. A brief audiovisual presentation of one or two minutes: (1) identifies the families and locations of their estates or farms: Washington - Mount Vernon, Wakefield, Ferry Farm; Lees - Stratford Hall, Alexandria; Mason - Gunston Hall; Fairfax - Belvoir and Greenway Court; Lewis - Kenmore; and relationships of the Custis, Carter and Ball families, (2) explains the role of families as plantation lords, (3) explains role of families as burgesses, vestrymen, justices of the peace, (4) describes the experience they gained through years of public service, (5) explains part played by experience as surveyor for Fairfax in training Washington as frontiersman and military leader in French and Indian War.

The Towns: The towns of Northern Virginia served as key gathering places in the 18th century. An audiovisual presentation: (1) identifies towns of Alexandria, Fredericksburg, Falmouth, Dumfries, Port Royal, as ports of entry, and Winchester; (2) highlights the founding of the towns; (3) explains their role in serving the plantations; (4) explains the settlement by Ulster-Scots or Scotch-Irish and Germanic immigrants; and (5) highlights merchants, physicians, lawyers, bankers who contributed to the Revolutionary cause, including Hugh Mercer, Fielding Lewis, and James Hunter. Beneath the slide screen is the 1755 map, with an overlay showing the location of the towns and three-dimensional objects related to life therein: tavern signs, theater posters, merchant ledgers, silversmiths' tools, apothecary items, dressmakers' fabrics, etc.

The Contributions: The taming of a wilderness required great courage. Developing all the means of self-sufficiency on a huge plantation, traveling great distances over primitive roads, crossing rivers on improvised rafts, penetrating the wilderness in pursuit of new enterprises - all of these things molded a special breed of men and women. The Lees, Washingtons, Masons, Balls, Mercers, Lewises and their kind were far closer to the soil, the wilderness and the needs of the common man than their elegant drawing-rooms might lead one to expect. When the testing time came between the Crown and the Colonies, many of these families threw themselves into the contest on the side of independence with great disregard for their lives, their fortunes and their personal comforts.

The visitor now approaches the climax of the exhibition: excerpts from the Fairfax Resolves, Richard Henry Lee's Resolution for Independence, and the Virginia Declaration of Rights are reproduced on large smoky plexiglass panels. Seen through the panels is a spotlighted, white-model figure of George Mason at a writing table, drafting a document. Near the figure, projected images and a voice narration describe how Northern Virginians played a key role in gaining independence and in laying the foundations of the republic. The roster is impressive: George Washington, George Mason, Richard Henry Lee, Patrick Henry, Fielding Lewis, Lighthorse Harry Lee and many others. Their contributions ranged from military command and the manufacture of armaments, to political leadership and drafting the basic documents on which independence and human rights were constructed.

The Northern Virginians are often called the philosophers of the Revolution. They were experienced in government and well-read in the new political philosophies of Locke, Montesquieu and Hume. When the need arose for leadership in framing new instruments for government, they were ready for the challenge. Thus our exhibit closes appropriately on the three great documents which came out of Northern Virginia: The Fairfax Resolves, the Virginia Resolutions for Independence, and the Declaration of Rights. The first two laid the basic groundwork for independence. The third set forth for all the world Virginia's dedication to the rights of man.



CHARLOTTESVILLE

The Western Virginia Bicentennial Center at Charlottesville is to be constructed on property held by the Piedmont Community College, which will be loaned to the VIBC for this use for the period 1974 through 1983, after which it will revert to the best use of the College.

Plans developed by Floyd Johnson, A.I.A., of Charlottesville, have received the approval of the VIBC board and the Art Commission. A spring opening in 1976 is planned.

The building is described by the architect as a statement which would demand attention, in keeping with the architecture of the College and with the period of interest. From the 25-foot windows in the front of the structure, through which the visitor would be able to look from three levels, there is a view of the mountains in the area of Monticello, across the stream. All levels will be accessible by ramps. The display and waiting area are on the third level, flanked by two theaters; from a mezzanine arrangement the visitor will be able to look down to the lower levels.

The area will accommodate 180 automobile parking spaces, as well as bus parking and recreation area.

Exhibits in the Charlottesville center will fall within the following outline:

The Valley of Virginia was Frontier Country in 1776: (A) a narrow wagon road linked the Colonies from Pennsylvania southward to Georgia; (B) Virginia pioneered the exploration of the Ohio Valley and claimed land to the Pacific Coast under its 1609 grant: (1) Daniel Boone in 1775 cut a wilderness road through Cumberland Gap. Dr. Thomas Walker had pioneered the route in 1750; (2) A log courthouse at Fincastle was the county seat for much of present West Virginia, Kentucky and Illinois County (Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and part of Minnesota); (3) Fincastle Resolves; (4) George Washington took a leading part in the colony's efforts to dislodge the French from the Ohio Valley in the French and Indian War.

Upcountry Men were Early Advocates of Independence: (A) Patrick Henry of Hanover called for "Liberty or Death", (B) Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, (C) The Reverend Peter Muhlenberg left his pastorate in Woodstock to take up arms against the British, (D) Scotch-Irishmen were superior soldiers: Generals Andrew Lewis, William Campbell, James Breckenridge, Charles Lewis, etc., (E) Colonel Charles Chiswell mined lead at Austinville for Virginia's soldiery, (F) George Rogers Clark led 150 Virginia militiamen in defense of the Northwest Territory. (G) Later leadership of Jefferson in Louisiana Purchase and Oregon claim through Meriwether Lewis and William Clark expedition.

Upcountry Men in the New Republic: (A) Of the first five Presidents, three — Jefferson, Madison and Monroe — were associated with upland Virginia, (B) The Scotch-Irish legacy of upland Virginia contributed greatly to the diffusion of education and religion in the new republic: (1) Washington College (Washington and Lee University), (2) Hampden-Sydney College, (3) Central College (University of Virginia).

Revolutionary Sites in Virginia Today: (A) How to see major and lesser-known sites in Central and Western Virginia, and (B) How to see the rest of the State.

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The Virginia State Travel Service will assist in the operation of all three centers, employing one liaison officer to serve as a contact and advisor for all three; advising in the layout and development of the information areas; and training public-contact personnel for those areas.

The VIBC enjoys the continued cooperation of the Highway Department, the Department of Conservation and Economic Development, the Commission of Outdoor Recreation, the Historic Landmarks Commission, the Hampton Road Sanitation District and State Water Control Board, the National Park Service, and other agencies, both State, Federal, local and nongovernmental.

The following statement of policy was issued in October 1971, and is hereby reaffirmed:

The Virginia Independence Bicentennial Commission believes that this Commonwealth should observe the anniversary years of American Independence from 1974 to 1983, with a celebration which will involve people of all ages, interests, races, and from all sections of our Commonwealth.

To inform the Nation of the shrines of independence in the Commonwealth, and of Virginia's part in the Revolutionary War, the VIBC secured the services of Mr. Andre de la Varre, New York film producer, who created a 28-minute color film of the battlefields, buildings and historical sites throughout Virginia available to the public today. The premiere showing of this film entitled, "Virginia: The Past As Prologue," was held in January 1973 for the Governor and members of the General Assembly. Since then 50 copies have been delivered to the VSTS, through which it has been shown before schools, and other organizations, and on educational television.

A booklet listing such shrines, their significance and location, has been published and is currently available at 50¢.

Section 3.b: "to receive . . . grants and donations"

1. On July 13, 1972, the Commission created a nonprofit corporation known as "Virginia Independence Bicentennial Corporation," under the provisions of Chapter 2 of Title 13.1 of the Code of Virginia. Grants of \$45,000 were received by this Corporation in 1972 and 1973 through the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, with which a second bicentennial film has been produced. For use in the Yorktown Victory Center, Wolper Productions of Los Angeles has created a 28-minute film dealing with the events leading to and culminating in the battle of Yorktown, entitled "The Road To Yorktown." The Commission particularly acknowledges the assistance of the Virginia Department of Highways in planning and developing the parking facilities for the three visitor centers and in planning and developing the improved Fort Eustis Boulevard for better access to the Yorktown Victory Center.

2. In May 1972, the Franklin Mint of Philadelphia conducted a nationwide competition for bicentennial medal designs from each of the 50 states. The winning design for Virginia depicts the profiles of the eight Virginia-born Presidents and the Capitol at Williamsburg. This has been adopted as the official Bicentennial Medal for Virginia, with the figures from the State seal on the reverse — used with permission of the Governor. A set of all 50 State Bicentennial Medals was presented to Governor Holton on October 12, 1973.

3. The Bicentennial Council of the Thirteen Original States has sponsored a series of commemorative medals, honoring the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, being issued by the Franklin Mint over the 56 months prior to July 4, 1975. Over 13,500 sets of these medals have been subscribed, royalties from which will be distributed in part to the bicentennial agencies of the thirteen states. Five thousand dollars has been received to date. With a portion of these royalties, the Corporation acquired in June 1973 two copper engraver's plates: "The British Surrendering Their Arms to General Washington after their Defeat at Yorktown in Virginia October 1781," and

“Yorktown in Virginia and Adjacent County, Exhibiting the Operations of the American, French and English Armies during the Siege of that Place in October, 1781,” both drawn by John Francis Renault and engraved by B. Tanner. Copies will be pulled from these plates on appropriate paper which has first been watermarked to indicate that such prints are from a second edition made during the Bicentennial of American Independence.

4. This Corporation also is handling matching grants made available from non-appropriated funds through the ARBC, which so far include \$19,162.50 to Alexandria for the development of a film for the center there; a like amount to Charlottesville for their film; and \$1,675.00 to Christopher Newport College to be used in developing a Bicentennial history symposium.

Section 4: “to adopt an official flag, seal, . . .”

The Commission has selected an appropriate insignia, which may hereafter be incorporated into the Commonwealth’s official Bicentennial seal, flag and other uses. This has been duly copyrighted and will be carefully used to enhance the Virginia Bicentennial’s image and, where appropriate, to derive funds for the observance.

Section 5: “The Governor . . . to issue proclamations”

As the celebration period approaches, the Governor will be requested by the Commission to issue proclamations calling attention to anniversaries and inviting participation.

Section 6: Service of Commission and Advisory Councils

Members of the Commission and its advisory bodies are serving without compensation, but are offered reimbursement of actual expenses in performing their duties.

Mr. Rouse, Executive Director of the Jamestown Foundation, continues to serve as director of the Commission, with Mrs. Jacqueline Taylor as assistant director. While there are now several staff members on the VIBC payroll in the Jamestown offices, additional staff work is still being performed by employees of the Jamestown Foundation.

Additional office space has been created by leasing a mobile office van which, with the permission of the trustees of the Jamestown Foundation, has been placed adjacent to the parking lot at the Festival Park, and on which Jamestown utilities have been connected.

Section 7: Annual report of the Commission

The requested annual report of the Commission for the calendar year 1973 is herewith submitted.

