Artifacts From Werowocomoco, Powhatan Capital City, on View at Jamestown Settlement

At the time Jamestown, America’s first permanent English colony, was founded in 1607, the center of power in coastal Virginia was about 20 miles away at Werowocomoco, principal residence of Powhatan, the region’s paramount chief. The importance of this location in Virginia Indian history and its role in early contact between Powhatan and English cultures is explored at Jamestown Settlement in “Werowocomoco: Seat of Power,” where artifacts spanning close to 10,000 years are on exhibit for the first time in a museum setting. The exhibition opened May 15 and continues through November 15.

Archaeological research since 2001 at Werowocomoco, on the York River in present-day Gloucester County, has revealed an intermittent human presence since about 8000 B.C. Werowocomoco developed as a ceremonial and political center for Algonquian-speaking communities in the Chesapeake Bay region after A.D. 1200 and ultimately played an important role in the development of the Powhatan chiefdom in the 16th century.

More than 60 artifacts from Werowocomoco, including stone projectile points and tools and pottery sherds, are exhibited. A selection of archaeological objects from the collections of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources complements the Werowocomoco material.

Copper alloy fragments dating to the early 17th century offer evidence of trade between the Powhatan and English cultures. The copper, including a rolled bead and sheets, is of European manufacture and has a chemical composition similar to copper fragments found at Jamestown. Even before Europeans arrived, copper was a valuable commodity in the Powhatan culture and was obtained through Algonquian-speaking communities in the Chesapeake Bay region after A.D. 1200 and ultimately played an important role in the development of the Powhatan chiefdom in the 16th century.

In conjunction with the “Werowocomoco: Seat of Power” exhibition and in partnership with the Virginia Indian community, Jamestown Settlement will host Virginia Indian Heritage Day on Saturday, June 26. The event will feature the Virginia Intertribal Drum and Dancers, in full regalia, presenting traditional and contemporary tribal dances. In panel discussions, tribal leaders will explore the significance of Werowocomoco and what the site means to descendant Virginia Indian communities today.
trade with other American Indian groups. Archaeologically found glass beads, also used in trade, are exhibited near the copper.

The exhibition discusses a central idea behind the archaeological research at Werowocomoco, the concept of "cultural landscape," understood as the imprint of past societies on the spaces and structures they built and modified. The topography of Werowocomoco shows manmade earthworks that separated the community along the riverfront from a location thought to have been used for high-status social and ceremonial functions. Archaeologists discovered a large structure and a large quantity of copper fragments in this well-defined location.

Werowocomoco is portrayed as a symbol of power and authority in context with other American Indian sites that feature ceremonial spaces and monumental architecture, including Ely Mound in Lee County and the Crab Orchard Site in Tazewell County, both in Virginia, and Chaco Canyon, New Mexico. Representing ceremonial practices are examples of thousand-year-old Chaco Canyon Black-on-White painted pottery, including two effigy vessels, and, from the Historic Crab Orchard Museum and Pioneer Park, a Late Woodland period mask made of a bear jaw.

Held prisoner at Werowocomoco by Powhatan in late 1607, Captain John Smith documented his experience in maps and writings. In one account many years later, he claimed it was the place where Powhatan's daughter Pocahontas saved him from death at her father's hand. Werowocomoco's location and a drawing of Powhatan seated on a dais are shown in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation's copy of Smith's Map of Virginia dating to 1612, the year the map was first published. About two years after the English established a foothold in Virginia, Powhatan moved his capital west to Orapax, a more protected location on the Chickahominy River. Although Werowocomoco remained a place of importance to Virginia Indians for some time after Powhatan's departure, the site was later occupied by people of European descent. The exhibition includes a multimedia presentation developed by Ashley Atkins, a member of the Pamunkey Tribe and College of William and Mary anthropology graduate student, that explores the meaning of Werowocomoco to Virginia Indians today.

"Werowocomoco: Seat of Power" was developed in cooperation with the site owners Robert F. and C. Lynn Ripley, the Werowocomoco Research Group and the Virginia Indian Advisory Board. College of William and Mary Assistant Professor of Anthropology Martin Gallivan is guest curator. James City County has provided funding in support of this special exhibition.

The Werowocomoco archaeological project was featured in the May 2007 issue of National Geographic magazine and in a PBS/NOVA documentary, "Pocahontas Revealed." A three-minute video based on the exhibition theme, produced in partnership with WCVE Community Idea Stations, can be seen at www.historyisfun.org/werowocomoco.htm.

Other American Indian "seats of power" are cited in the Werowocomoco exhibition. Pictured are a Black-on-White painted pottery effigy vessel in the shape of a bird, dating to A.D. 900-1050, from Chaco Canyon, New Mexico, on loan from a private collection, and a Late Woodland period mask made from the upper jaw of a bear, courtesy of the Historic Crab Orchard Museum and Pioneer Park in Tazewell County, Virginia.
Ship Sails Sculpture ‘A Fair Wind’ Greets Jamestown Settlement Visitors

A massive bronze sculpture designed by nationally prominent wildlife sculptor David H. Turner was dedicated May 15 at Jamestown Settlement’s Quadricentennial Plaza, an outdoor, flag-lined space adjacent to the museum entrance.

Comprised of three ship masts and wind-blown sails, the new sculpture – named “A Fair Wind” – resembles the logo of “America’s 400th Anniversary,” a series of events in 2006 and 2007 that commemorated and drew national attention to the 1607 founding in Virginia of America’s first permanent English colony. The 3,000-pound, 18-foot-long sculpture was placed in an existing circular fountain, where jets of water splash up toward the sails. At its tallest point, the sculpture rises 17 feet above the water surface.

“A Fair Wind” was produced at Turner Sculpture in Onley, on Virginia’s Eastern Shore, by a team of 11 artisans using the “lost wax” method of bronze casting. This process involved sculpting in clay and wax and pouring 2,000-degree molten bronze into molds, creating more than 75 pieces later welded together.

Mr. Turner, a native Virginian, and graduate of the College of William and Mary, “focused on evoking an emotional connection rather than on minute details” in designing the sculpture. The work includes stylized bronze ropes and riggings that enhance the design and provide structural support. Mr. Turner’s more than 60 commissioned sculptures are on public display across the country and include “Eagle & Eaglets” at Constitution Hall, “Trio of Herons” at Virginia Beach Town Center and “Canada Geese” at Chicago Botanic Garden.

Sections of the sculpture were transported to Jamestown Settlement by truck from Virginia’s Eastern Shore, lifted into place with a crane, and secured to the Quadricentennial Plaza fountain with a stainless steel base anchoring system.

Cincinnati Society Plate, Naval Trunk Acquired for Yorktown Victory Center

A Chinese export porcelain plate from a large dinner service purchased by George Washington in 1785 has been acquired for future exhibit at the Yorktown Victory Center. The plate is painted in the center with the allegorical winged figure of Fame blowing her trumpet and the eagle insignia of the Society of the Cincinnati, whose members had served as commissioned officers in the Continental Army or Navy during the American Revolution. Washington was President General of the Society from its founding in 1783 until his death in 1799. The group took its name from the Roman Lucius Quinctius Cincinnatus, a farmer turned patriot-soldier.

Washington’s dinner service, consisting of more than 300 pieces, was made and decorated in Canton and shipped to the United States on the Pallas a year after the new nation had established trade with China.

A small trunk owned by Continental Navy shipbuilder Captain Tobias Lear also was added to the collection. The wooden dome trunk, just 15 inches long and 9 inches high, dates to 1773 and retains its original leather covering, ornamented with brass tacks. Captain Lear was supervisor of the Continental Yard near Portsmouth, New Hampshire, during the Revolution and built the Ranger, the famous ship captained by John Paul Jones.

Acquired with private donations to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., both objects help illustrate exhibit themes in planned new Yorktown Victory Center galleries.
In 1620 English merchant Richard Jobson made a journey up the River Gambia, in West Africa, in search of trading opportunities. During one of his many encounters with the inhabitants of the region, Jobson recorded seeing a woman wearing “a pair of brasse bracelts” that “did appeare to me, to be such as might very well be brought in their beginnings, either from London, or some other part of our native Country.”

The idea that English trade goods might be present in early 17th-century West Africa is hardly surprising, since by this point in time English trade with the region was well established. What is unexpected about Jobson’s account is his willingness to identify the bracelets he encountered along the River Gambia as probably of English origin. European-made brass or copper bracelets had been a mainstay of trade with Africa since the 15th century. These bracelets generally are called by the Anglicized Portuguese name of “manillas.” While there is good evidence that manillas were being made in England during the 18th and 19th centuries, most scholars have assumed that early manillas are Portuguese products.

In 2007 the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation mounted a major international exhibition called “The World of 1607” in honor of Jamestown’s 400th anniversary. One of the items borrowed for this exhibition was an artifact recovered on the site of the Birdall foundry in Exeter, England, in 1984. This artifact, now in the collection of the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, appeared to be a mold for making manillas. The Birdall foundry where the mold was recovered went out of business by 1625, so any object produced from the mold had to date to the Jamestown era or earlier.

The historical record indicates that early English trade with Africa wasn’t highly organized, and until the discovery of the Exeter mold scholars had no compelling evidence that the trade involved special products made in England exclusively for the African market. So far as they knew, the English trade goods reaching Africa in the early 17th century were things like cloth or household utensils that were no different from the things that English manufacturers were producing for sale at home or in Europe. English traders certainly used manillas when trading in Africa even in the 16th century, but no one knew that they might be English products at such an early date.

While the Exeter mold was on exhibit at Jamestown Settlement, the curatorial staff here had an opportunity to compare that mold with a number of examples of manillas that are in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s own artifact collection. Because manillas were so important to the African trade, the Foundation already had acquired a number of them for exhibit in the “From Africa to Virginia” theater in the Jamestown Settlement galleries. As it turned out, none of the manillas in the Foundation’s collection were large enough or of the right shape to have been produced in the Exeter mold.

Since then, additional research eventually turned up a single example of a manilla from a private collection that must have been cast in a mold that was almost identical to the Exeter mold. Furthermore, this manilla belonged to a recognized stylistic category of manillas that are known as “Mkporo” manillas in Africa. Mkporo manillas are very rare even in Africa, and no one knows very much about them. Because Mkporo manillas are so rare, and because they are so different in size from most other manillas, most people assumed that they represented a very early type, but nobody knew for sure. Now we can say with some confidence that Mkporo manillas are of 16th or early 17th century date, and that at least some of them were made in England.

The story of the Exeter manilla mold illustrates that museum exhibits can be important research tools as well as vehicles for public education. Because new sets of eyes got to see this important artifact when it was here in Virginia for “The World of 1607” exhibition, new things were learned about it, and an important but little-known aspect of early English overseas trade can now be better understood. In the light of this new knowledge, Richard Jobson’s speculations about the brass bracelets he saw in West Africa in 1620 make much better sense. Jobson, like ourselves, lived in a world where international trade was a fact of life, and where a traveler in a foreign land should never be surprised to see something from his “native Country.”

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**“Brasse Bracelets” from “Our Native Country”: The West Africa Trade and the Beginnings of English Manilla Manufacture**

By Thomas E. Davidson, Ph.D.

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Senior Curator

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More than 200 manillas in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation collection are exhibited (in case at left) in Jamestown Settlement’s “From Africa to Virginia” theater, which uses three-screen movie projection and lighting with period illustrations and artifacts to chronicle African encounters with Europeans, the impact on African culture and the development of the transatlantic slave trade.

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This manilla mold, recovered from the site of a 17th-century foundry in Exeter, England, was loaned by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery for “The World of 1607” exhibition at Jamestown Settlement in 2007-08.

The Mkporo manilla on the right, from a private collection, was cast in a mold almost identical to the Exeter mold. The Mkporo manilla is shown next to a smaller manilla in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation collection.
Teacher Study Tours Debut At Foundation Museums

In recent months several groups of educators, including U.S. Department of Education “Teaching American History” grant recipients, have experienced the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s new “Government and Leadership” teacher study tour at Jamestown Settlement. A “Farmer to Soldier” tour will debut at the Yorktown Victory Center in June.

The programs, developed by Foundation education staff, include interactive experiences and themed tours of the museums’ exhibition galleries and living-history areas and are designed to last up to two-and-a-half hours. Each participant will receive a CD containing three lesson plans and resources relating to the study tour theme.

“Government and Leadership” focuses on leaders from the Powhatan Indian, English and west central African cultures that converged at Jamestown and the evolution of representative government in the colony. “Farmer to Soldier” spotlights the transition from life as a small Virginia farmer to Revolutionary War soldier and explores the roles of women and African Americans during the American Revolution.

Godspeed Undertakes Four Outreach Voyages

Jamestown Settlement’s Godspeed, a re-creation of one of the three ships that brought America’s first permanent English colonists to Virginia in 1607, will sail to four Virginia ports this year to participate in maritime events and outreach programming.

The Godspeed is sailed by a crew of Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation staff and volunteers, and its voyages are supported with private donations to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc.

The first port of call is Norfolk, for the city’s 34th annual Harborfest, June 11-13. The event opens with a parade of sail beginning in Hampton Roads at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 11, and arriving at the Norfolk harbor at noon. The Godspeed will dock at Waterside Marina for the maritime festival.

The Godspeed will be a featured attraction at the 28th annual Hampton Bay Days, September 10-12 in downtown Hampton, as the city commemorates its 400th anniversary. The event has an educational focus, highlighting Hampton’s history as a colonial seaport and fishing village and the ecology of the Chesapeake Bay.

The Jamestown Settlement ship will be open for public tours throughout the Norfolk Harborfest and Hampton Bay Days events.

This fall, the Godspeed will sail into the Chesapeake Bay and up the Rappahannock River for Lancaster County’s Hospice Turkey Shoot Regatta in October and the Urbanna Oyster Festival in November.

Pre-scheduled maritime education programs will be presented for area students on October 8 in Lancaster and November 4 in Urbanna. The Godspeed also will be open for public tours at Yankee Point Marina in Lancaster on October 8 and at the Urbanna Town Marina during the Urbanna Oyster Festival on November 5 and 6.

Available to groups of 10 or more educators, the tours are listed in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s 2010 Education Planner, at www.historyisfun.org/educational-adventures.htm. The Foundation frequently partners with Teaching American History grant applicants and recipients to provide teacher study tours and curriculum-coordinated workshops.

Summer Teacher Institute Is July 11-16

Twenty four elementary and middle school instructors from across Virginia have been selected from 63 applicants to participate in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s third consecutive Summer Teacher Institute, July 11-16. A distinctive feature of the institute – in addition to tours, workshops and lectures – is the opportunity for participants to work in costume alongside historical interpreters at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center.

Supported with grants from a private family foundation and The Ukrop Foundation, the weeklong institute is provided at no cost to the participants or their school districts.

During the Godspeed’s absences from Jamestown Settlement, museum visitors will have access to the Susan Constant and Discovery, re-creations of the other two 1607 ships, and the Elizabeth, representing a ship that made several voyages to Virginia between 1613 and 1625.
Annual Fund Receives $10,000 Gift

Don and Linda Baker of Williamsburg have renewed their membership in General Washington's Council of The 1607 Society with a gift of $10,000 to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund. As members of General Washington's Council, the Bakers will be recognized on signage in the Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center entrance lobbies. Mrs. Baker is a member of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors.

Delegates Jones, Sherwood Appointed to Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Board

Virginia Delegates S. Chris Jones of Suffolk and Beverly J. Sherwood of Winchester were appointed by House of Delegates Speaker William J. Howell to the Board of Trustees of Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, succeeding Phillip A. Hamilton and Frank D. Hargrove, Sr.
Delegation Jones has represented the 76th District in the House of Delegates since 1998 and currently chairs the General Laws Committee. He previously served as mayor and vice mayor of the City of Suffolk. Last year he was named “Suffolk’s First Citizen” by the Suffolk Rotary Club. A graduate of the Medical College of Virginia School of Pharmacy, Delegate Jones is president and pharmacist of Bennett’s Creek Pharmacy located in Suffolk.

Delegate Sherwood has represented the 29th District since 1994 and is the senior woman in the House of Delegates. She currently chairs the Militia, Police and Public Safety Committee and the Public Safety Subcommittee of Appropriations. She has served on the Frederick County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission and was named Winchester Business and Professional Women’s Club “Woman of the Year” in 2005. Delegate Sherwood is the former co-owner of Sherwood Christmas Tree Farm.

Emerson Named Distinguished Alumnus

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Executive Director Philip G. Emerson has received the Randolph-Macon College Society of the Alumni’s Distinguished Alumnus Award and was keynote speaker at the annual Society of Alumni Awards Banquet. A 1981 graduate of Randolph-Macon, he joined the Foundation in 1986 and became executive director in 1991. He previously worked for The Mariners’ Museum, the Virginia Travel Council and Luray Caverns Corporation.

Gutierrez Elected Virginia Association of Museums President

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Senior Director of Museum Operations & Education Joseph A. Gutierrez, Jr., was elected in March to a two-year term as president of the Virginia Association of Museums, the premier organization for museum professionals in Virginia. Mr. Gutierrez has served on the VAM Council since 2005 and most recently was vice president for planning and resources.

Sculpture Placed on Legacy Walk at Jamestown Settlement

A bronze sculpture by Pamunkey Indian artist Kevin Brown, titled “New World Resurrection,” has been placed on Jamestown Settlement’s Legacy Walk bordering the open mall outside the museum’s visitor services and gallery complex. The sculpture was created in partnership with Jamestown 2007, the agency that coordinated the state’s role in commemorating the 400th anniversary of the founding of America’s first permanent English colony. Mr. Brown sculpted the preliminary work in plaster at Anniversary Park during America’s Anniversary Weekend, May 11-13, 2007.

The six-foot-tall sculpture is in the form of a totem atop a representation of James Fort. “My hope is that the public will view this piece and come away not just with an appreciation of the hardships endured by both Colonists and Indians,” Mr. Brown said, “but an appreciation of our shared histories that make us uniquely American.”

Homeschool Program Participation Sets Record in 2009-10 School Year

Participation in the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s homeschool programs reached a pinnacle in the 2009-10 academic year. A special ticket for homeschool families, offered during a two-week period in the fall semester and one week in the spring semester, provides unlimited admission to Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center and the opportunity to pre-register for optional student hands-on classroom programs and family guided tours of the museums’ outdoor living-history areas. Dates are coordinated with Colonial Williamsburg so that out-of-town participants can attend homeschool programs throughout the Historic Triangle.

Together, this year’s sessions brought 6,872 parents and children to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation museums, the highest number in the program’s eight-year history. The next homeschool session is scheduled for September 11-26. Visit www.historyisfun.org/Homeschool-Programs-2.htm for more information.
Special Events Engage, Acknowledge Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Donors

Special educational and social opportunities are offered throughout the year to Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation donors in appreciation of their support of museum programs. Donor benefits are in effect for one year from the date of a gift.

A series of recent events acknowledged members of The 1607 Society giving clubs – Captain John Smith’s Companie (donors of $1,607-$2,499), Marquis de Lafayette’s Circle ($2,500-$4,999), Lord de la Warr’s Associates ($5,000-$9,999) and General Washington’s Council ($10,000 and above).

In anticipation of Jamestown Settlement’s special exhibition “Werowocomoco: Seat of Power,” members of The 1607 Society participated in a February 25 outing that featured dinner at the Carrot Tree restaurant in Yorktown, followed with a lecture by College of William and Mary Assistant Professor of Anthropology Martin Gallivan at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester County about the archaeological research at the Werowocomoco site. 1607 Society members also were guests at a May 13 pre-exhibition-opening celebration at Jamestown Settlement. Donors of $250-$1,606 were invited to a May 18 exhibition reception.

On March 4, donors of $2,500 or more experienced a unique opportunity to view the rare 1776 broadside of the Declaration of Independence on exhibit at the Yorktown Victory Center and discuss text selections from this historic document with College of William and Mary Pullen Professor of History James P. Wittenburg.

Members of The 1607 Society spent the afternoon of March 20 at Jamestown Settlement’s annual Military Through the Ages event. After refreshments, they were treated to a private tour of select military camps and invited to handle reproductions of historical weapons.

Members of Lord de la Warr’s Associates and General Washington’s Council dined with General Washington, portrayed by Ron Carnegie, on May 6 in the Yorktown Victory Center’s re-created Continental Army encampment.

Much more is planned for the remainder of 2010:
“Shindig at the Settlement” on June 10 will feature music by the Rhondels of Virginia Beach. In appreciation of their support, donors of $500 or more will receive two complimentary tickets to this event at Jamestown Settlement. Tickets also will be available for purchase.

Half of proceeds from the September 1 “Wine on Wednesdays” event at the Williamsburg Winery will benefit the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund. The event is open to the public for an admission fee of $10 per person.

Two fall excursions are planned for members of The 1607 Society. The “Virginia Presidential Homes Tour,” September 21-23, will include tours of Monticello, Montpelier and Ash Lawn-Highland, a tour and dinner at Barboursville Winery, and accommodations at Keswick Hall. “Washington, D.C., During the Holidays,” December 7-9, will feature a “Happy Holidays” concert by the National Symphony Orchestra, with Marvin Hamlisch conducting, at the Kennedy Center and a private tour of the National Cathedral.

To learn more about giving clubs, upcoming events, and what donations support, visit www.historyisfun.org/giving.htm or call Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund Director Christina Dominguez at (757) 253-4139.

Bequest Will Establish Chiricotti Education Endowment Fund

Audrael and John Chiricotti have included the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., in their will, establishing the Audrael M. and John H. Chiricotti Education Endowment Fund. The Chiricottis join The Legacy Society, which honors and recognizes those who choose to provide for the future of Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation programs with a planned gift.

“One of our greatest gratifications is to leave a legacy benefitting an organization in which we so firmly believe,” the Chiricottis said. “Such are our feelings towards the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. We believe that educating our teachers and youth is fundamental to the mission of the Foundation. This mission is more relevant today than ever, and we are pleased that our endowment will help ensure the continuation of these programs. We would encourage others to support the Foundation, Inc., whose work is so critical to preserving our nation’s history.”

The Chiricottis’ future gift will endow educational opportunities for schoolchildren, teachers and visitors of all ages at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center and in outreach settings.

For information on including the Foundation, Inc., in estate plans, including sample bequest language, visit www.historyisfun.org/planned-gifts.htm or call Chief Development Officer Carter Sonders or Senior Development Officer Julie Basic at (757) 253-4139.
Tools of the Trade Theme Month
Jamestown Settlement & Yorktown Victory Center

 Implements used in colonial Virginia for farming, fishing, hunting, defense, navigation and building are examined through interpretive programs and hands-on activities.

Through November 15
“Werowocomoco: Seat of Power” Special Exhibition
Jamestown Settlement
Artifacts from Werowocomoco, the capital of the Powhatan Indian chiefdom at the time English colonists arrived in Virginia in 1607, are on museum display for the first time. Recent archaeological research has revealed that Werowocomoco was a uniquely important place long before the rise of the Powhatan chiefdom. See story on page 1.

June 26
Virginia Indian Heritage Day
Jamestown Settlement
Virginia Indian tribal leaders will explore in panel discussions the significance of Werowocomoco and what the site means to descendant Virginia Indian communities today. The Virginia Intertribal Drum and Dancers will present traditional and contemporary tribal dances. Presented in partnership with the Virginia Indian community.

July 3-4
Liberty Celebration
Yorktown Victory Center
Tactical drills, military exercises and role-playing demonstrations salute the anniversary of America’s independence. Visitors can see in the museum galleries a rare broadside printing of the Declaration of Independence dating to July 1776 and, during a special interpretive program, learn about the sacrifices of Americans who sought to be “free and independent” from Great Britain.

August 1-31
Pastimes of Colonial Virginia Theme Month
Jamestown Settlement & Yorktown Victory Center
Games, storytelling and other diversions of 17th- and 18th-century Virginia are shown through hands-on activities and interpretive programs. Visitors can play corn cob darts, ninepins, quoits, mancala and nine-men’s morris.