

Jamestown and Seventeenth-Century Colonial Virginia A Selection of Readings and Web Sites

The preparations for the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the landing at Jamestown have created a keen interest in the history of the Virginia colony. Scholars anticipating this curiosity produced a number of well-researched books that present a real picture of Jamestown, rather the romanticized rendition popular at the beginning of the twentieth century. Advances in technology and in archaeological methods have helped archaeologists and historians to study findings and corroborate them with contemporary texts. Through this research a much clearer picture of the settlement and everyday life in seventeenth-century Virginia has emerged.



Archaeology

Blanton, Dennis B., and Patricia Kandle. *Archaeological Survey of Jamestown Island*. Williamsburg: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 2000. F234 J6 B55 2000.

Part of a larger effort to assess and inventory the archaeological sites on the National Park Service's lands at Jamestown Island, the project utilized advanced methods in archaeology and sophisticated techniques in other disciplines. Also, for the first time, the area surrounding the excavations was studied. Truly comprehensive in scope, the study has integrated archaeological and environmental observations with documentary records.

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Cotter, John L. *Archeological Excavations at Jamestown, Virginia*. 2nd ed. Courtland, Va.: Archeological Society of Virginia, 1994. E78 V7 C680 1994

Originally published in 1958 by the National Park Service, this work was republished in 1994 by the Archeological Society of Virginia. In it archaeologist John L. Cotter describes the pioneering excavations in Jamestown. The work is significant not only because of the site's importance, but also because here Cotter laid the groundwork for archaeological investigations in North America. For the second edition, the author wrote a substantial new introduction on the history and culture of seventeenth-century Jamestown. This is followed by another chapter discussing the archaeological findings in Jamestown in the context of evidence from other seventeenth-century Tidewater sites. The third chapter is the original archaeological report of the excavations between 1934 and 1957.

Horning, Audrey J., and Andrew C. Edwards. *Archaeology in New Towne, 1993–1995*. Williamsburg: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 2000. F234 J6 H67 2000

This work describes the results of exploratory archaeological research conducted in 1993 and 1995 in three locations in the area of Jamestown.

Kelso, William M. *Jamestown: The Buried Truth*. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2006. F234 J6 K465 2006
This is one of the most important and substantive books written on the occasion of the 400th anniversary celebration of Jamestown. The author, William Kelso, led the archaeological excavations and explorations of the Jamestown site. The excavations, which began in 1994, have brought to light the seventeenth-century fort's postholes and revealed a triangular structure that had an almost round bulwark in each angle. In addition, the excavations revealed the existence of other buildings and military barracks within the fort. The discovery of many discarded items speaks volumes about the everyday life in the small colony and provides a vivid picture of a settlement far more complex than previously thought. The recent excavations substantiated by contemporary writings give Jamestown its rightful place in American history. This book will appeal as much to the curious traveler as to the serious scholar.

Kelso, William M., and Beverly A. Straube. *Jamestown Rediscovery, 1994–2004*. Richmond: Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, 2004. F234 J6 J368 2004

The APVA Jamestown Rediscovery project was a ten-year effort to uncover the whole area of Jamestown's earliest settlement and to study the growth of the seventeenth-century town, while making the site accessible to the visiting public. Eighth in a series of updates, this presents a synopsis of the last three seasons of excavations.

Mallios, Seth. *At the Edge of the Precipice: Frontier Ventures, Jamestown's Hinterland, and the Archaeology of 44JC802*. Richmond: Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, 2000. F232 J18 M32 2000

This is a detailed study of a site excavated by the APVA Jamestown Rediscovery Project. The site was named after its first documented land owner George Sandys, a prominent settler. The archaeological finds revealed that the site was occupied ca. 1630–1650. The analysis of a large number of artifacts suggests that the site served as a farmstead. It is an example of the earliest attempts by colonists to settle the area around Jamestown.

McCartney, Martha W. *Documentary History of Jamestown Island*. Williamsburg: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 2000. F234 J6 M3 2000

The three-volume work, an in-depth account of the excavations at Jamestown Island, consists of a detailed description of the archaeological site, an analysis of artifacts and skeletal remains that are paired with historical events, and historic documentation of land ownership and those who lived on Jamestown Island.

Bibliography

Moore, Del. *Bibliography of Jamestown Resources*. Williamsburg: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 2000. F234 J6 M66 2000

This is the most comprehensive scholarly bibliography on Jamestown.

Biographies

Allen, Paula Gunn. *Pocahontas: Medicine Woman, Spy, Entrepreneur, Diplomat*. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 2003. E99 P85 P57145 2003

In writing a book about Pocahontas from a Native American perspective, the author has used sources often overlooked by Western historians and offers remarkable new insights into the adventurous life of an American heroine.

Billings, Warren M. *Sir William Berkeley and the Forging of Colonial Virginia*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2004. F229 B53 B55 2004

Sir William Berkeley was a key player in the history of colonial Virginia. After ten years in the English court, the Oxford-educated diplomat won appointment as governor of Virginia in 1641. Under Berkeley's rule, Virginia increased trade with various markets and prospered as a colony. Berkeley's plantation, Green Spring, served as a model for Virginia's planter aristocracy, and his creation of the General Assembly helped establish the origins of American political self-rule. But his increasingly questionable policies also precipitated Bacon's Rebellion in 1676, which prompted tighter control of Virginia from London and Berkeley's return to England in disgrace.

Emerson, Everett H. *Captain John Smith*. New York: Twayne Publishers, 1993. F229 S7 E44 1993

The author takes a unique approach to his subject by providing a modernized edition of Smith's writings for contemporary readers. He demonstrates that Smith was a keen observer by accurately portraying the new colony, the native people, and the English colonists alike. Emerson stresses Smith's belief in the promotion of Virginia's cause, his unique attempt to define a distinctively American identity, and especially his self-portrait as an individualist, soldier, and dreamer.

Hoobler, Dorothy. *Captain John Smith: Jamestown and the Birth of the American Dream*. Hoboken, N.J.: John Wiley & Sons, 2006. F229 S7 H66 2006

Based on primary sources and new archaeological findings, this detailed account of Captain John Smith's first three years in Jamestown attempts to sketch the real person and to demythologize his relationship with Pocahontas. In addition, it describes his life before Jamestown and his attempts to rally support for the colony after he returned to England.

Rountree, Helen C. *Pocahontas, Powhatan, Opechancanough: Three Indian Lives Changed by Jamestown*. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2005. E99 P85 R665 2005

In this work, the author, a known scholar of Native American history, presents in one place the biographies of the most important Native American figures during the period of the establishment of Jamestown. The lives and importance of the two great chiefs—Powhatan, father of Pocahontas, and Opechancanough, brother of Powhatan—are described for the first time.

Selected Titles

Abrams, Ann Uhry. *The Pilgrims and Pocahontas: Rival Myths of American Origin*. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1999. F68 A16 1999

Abrams expounds on the traditional Jamestown/Pocahontas and Plymouth/Pilgrim stories, analyzing similarities and striking differences in the character of the myths, as well as the messages they convey.

Appelbaum, Robert, and John Wood Sweet, eds. *Envisioning an English Empire: Jamestown and the Making of the North Atlantic World*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005. F234 J3 J3255 2005

This volume of essays brings together historians and literary scholars to consider many of the cultural and international contexts surrounding the history of Jamestown and the literature of empire that emerged from it. The collection includes an examination of early encounters between European settlers and the Powhatan Indians and the relations of these groups with London. Several essays also discuss the international context that defined English colonialism in this period by examining encounters with Spain, the Turks, North Africa, and Ireland. The book concludes by discussing the transformation of Jamestown's inhabitants over the course of the seventeenth century, considering conflicts and exchanges over food, property, slavery, and colonial identity.

Jamestown 2007

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

<http://www.Jamestown2007.org/home.cfm> [viewed 1/16/2007]

The official site of the “America’s 400th Anniversary,” it provides information on Jamestown and the celebration in 2007.

Jamestown Rediscovery

Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities

<http://www.apva.org/jr.html> [viewed 11/18/2006]

This subchapter of APVA was created to investigate the remains of 1607–1698 Jamestown on Jamestown Island, Virginia. Excavation since 1994 has uncovered hundreds of thousands of artifacts dating to the first half of the seventeenth century. Half of them date from the first years of the English settlement (1607–1610). The site of James Fort was not washed into the river as most people believed and much of the original structure has been uncovered. The Web site presents a history of Jamestown, a timeline of events, lists of early settlers with occupations, and an overview of the new archaeological discovery of the original fort.

Historic Jamestowne: Unearthing America’s Birthplace

Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, National Park Service

<http://www.historicjamestowne.org/> [viewed 1/18/2007]

This is the official site of the first permanent English settlement in America, jointly administered by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities and the National Park Service. The mission of “Historic Jamestowne” is to preserve, protect, and promote the original site and to tell the story of the role of the three cultures—European, North American, and African—that came together to lay the foundation for a uniquely American form of government and society.

Jamestown Historic Briefs

Colonial National Historical Park/National Park Service

<http://www.nps.gov/colo/Jthanout/JTBriefs.html> [viewed 11/18/2006]

Part of the Colonial National Historical Park Web site, this page is a topic index to timelines; bibliographies; and information on history, personalities, manufacturing, and industries that offers much authoritative information.

The Jamestown Records of the Virginia Company of London: A Conservator’s Perspective

Library of Congress

http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/jefferson_papers/mjtjessay2.html [viewed 11/18/2006]

This site shows the conservation techniques and efforts used to preserve the original Jamestown records of the Virginia Company of London in the collections of the Library of Congress.

Journey of Democracy

Jamestown 400th Federal Commission

<http://www.jamestownjourney.org/> [viewed 1/16/2007]

This is the official education curriculum Web site of “America’s 400th Anniversary.” The lessons provided on this Web site will help teachers and students explore vital legacies by connecting students with the past, encouraging and informing their civic involvement, and illuminating how the earliest experiences in America helped shape contemporary issues and institutions.

Virtual Jamestown

University of Virginia

<http://www.virtualjamestown.org/> [viewed 11/18/2006]

This digital research/teaching/learning project explores the legacies of the Jamestown settlement and “the Virginia experiment.” Enter the site to find maps and images, public and court records, first-hand accounts and letters, labor contracts, and a reference center. “Interactive Jamestown” features virtual panoramas of the Jamestown fort and interactive maps highlighting Captain John Smith’s explorations and patterns of settlement.

Horn, James. *A Land as God Made It: Jamestown and the Birth of America*. New York: Basic Books, 2005.

F234 J6 H66 2005

A Land as God Made It is a comprehensive history of the settlement of Jamestown from 1607 through the Indian Uprising of 1622. Horn extensively details the interaction between the English Settlers and the chiefdom of Wahunsonacock, more popularly known as Powhatan. The author also discusses the role of John Smith within the settlement effort and outlines several themes beginning at Jamestown that recur throughout American history.

Haile, Edward Wright, ed. *Jamestown Narratives: Eyewitness Accounts of the Virginia Colony: The First Decade: 1607–1617*. Champlain, Va.: Round House, 1998. F234 J6 J365 1998

The author has collected in one volume all of the surviving primary source documents available from the settlement of Jamestown in 1607 to the return of John Rolfe to Virginia in 1617. Each of the fifty-eight entries is presented chronologically, contains source notes, and has been edited to reflect modern spelling and punctuation. Some entries have also been abridged.

Jester, Annie Lash. *Adventurers of Purse and Person, Virginia, 1607–1624/5*. [4th ed. by John Frederick Dorman.] Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 2004—. F229 J4 2004

The fourth edition of this book will consist of three volumes of which the first two have been published. Greatly expanded by new historical research, this title covers six generations of the first families who settled in Jamestown between 1607 and 1624/5. In essence this book is the genealogy of the first inhabitants of the colony.

Kingsbury, Susan Myra, ed. *The Records of the Virginia Company of London*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1906–1935. Reprint, Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1993—. F229 V86 1993

Originally published between 1906 and 1935, this is a reproduction of a Library of Congress work. In addition to publishing many primary source materials on the Virginia Company and its agents not previously available in print, Kingsbury included an introduction and extensive bibliography. Of particular note is the Court Book of the Virginia Company of London that includes the official minutes from the period of 1619 to 1624.

Kukla, Jon. *Political Institutions in Virginia, 1619–1660*. New York: Garland, 1989. F229 K96 1989

Adapted from the author's dissertation at the University of Toronto in 1979, this monograph traces the political development of Virginia's governor, Council, and Assembly by addressing the wider social context of early Virginia and the individuals who shaped these institutions.

Lemay, J. A. Leo. *Did Pocahontas Save Captain John Smith?* Athens, Ga.: University of Georgia Press, 1992.

F229 S7 L47 1992

In 1860, historian Charles Deane questioned whether the story of Pocahontas's rescue of Captain John Smith was authentic or merely a dramatic puffery that Smith devised after Pocahontas became famous. Henry Adams took up the assault on Smith's account with a detailed analysis of Smith's writings and other manuscript and contemporary accounts. Writing in 1862 to a friend, he called his research a kind of "flank attack" on the South, indicating more than a scholarly interest in discrediting Smith's account. William Wirt Henry published a refutation of Adams' work in 1875, but Adams arguments have remained better known. Lemay examines the debate in detail, citing the advantage modern scholars enjoy of easy examination of microfilm copies of multiple early editions and manuscripts, as well as of other scholarly works on the subject. Although scholars continue to debate the issue, his thorough review of the sources provides a good foundation for further research.

McCartney, Martha W. *Jamestown: An American Legacy*. N.p.: Eastern National, 2001. F234 J6 M32 2001

McCartney previously served as project historian for the National Park Service's Jamestown Archaeological Assessment. In this work she has produced an extensively illustrated narrative history of Jamestown for Eastern National, a cooperating association of the National Park Service. The book includes several chapters related to the history of Jamestown Island following the move of Virginia's capital to Williamsburg in 1699.

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Noël Hume, Ivor. *The Virginia Adventure: Roanoke to James Towne: An Archaeological and Historical Odyssey*. New York: A.A. Knopf, 1994. F229 N84 1994

Noël Hume tells the story of the two earliest Virginia settlements, Roanoke Colony and Jamestown, weaving together contemporary accounts and archaeological information.

Price, David. *Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Heart of a New Nation*. New York: Knopf, 2003. F234 J6 P68 2003

Price offers a history of Jamestown that is both easy to read and well-documented, providing copious chapter notes and an extensive bibliography.

Rountree, Helen C. *Pocahontas's People: The Powhatan Indians of Virginia through Four Centuries*. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1990. E99 P85 R67 1990

The events that shaped the lives of the Powhatan Indians from their first encounter with English colonists in 1607 to their present-day way of life are traced in relationships with the Virginia and United States governments.

———. *The Powhatan Indians of Virginia: Their Traditional Culture*. Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1989. E99 P85 R68 1989

Rountree provides a reconstruction of the customs and culture of Virginia Indians based upon the descriptions of John Smith and other English colonists, supplemented by accounts of later periods, neighboring peoples, and archaeological findings.

———. *Powhatan Foreign Relations, 1500–1722*. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1993. E99 P85 P683 1993

A collection of essays on the interaction of the Powhatan chiefdom with other native peoples and with Europeans from the perspectives of physical and cultural anthropology, archaeology, and history.

Rountree, Helen C., and E. Randolph Turner. *Before and After Jamestown: Virginia's Powhatans and Their Predecessors*. Gainesville, Fla.: University Press of Florida, 2002. E99 P85 R66 2002

Written for the general reader, this work provides a chronological survey of the Powhatan Indians' culture and history from the late woodland period to their twentieth-century struggles to reassert their ethnic identity.

Rountree, Helen C., and Thomas E. Davidson. *Eastern Shore Indians of Virginia and Maryland*. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1997. E78 V7 R68 1997

Eastern Shore Indians provides a detailed account of the history, culture, and ecology of Delmarva Indians in Virginia and Maryland, using early county records as well as those of the colonial governments. Rountree's cultural anthropology focus and Davidson's archaeological background, combined with their mutual expertise in colonial Virginia history, produce an interesting study of the contrasting results of different governmental approaches to interaction with the native peoples.

Rouse, Parke. *Jamestown's Story: Act One of the American Dream*. Richmond: Dietz Press, 2006. F234 J6 R68 2006
Utilizing selections from the newspaper columns, books, and other writings of Parke Rouse, Jr., as well as a wealth of illustrations, this short volume (163 pages) provides a fast-reading, engaging tale of Jamestown's history.

Scott, Anne Firor, and Suzanne Lebsack. *Virginia Women: The First Two Hundred Years*. Foundations of America. Williamsburg: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 1988. HQ1438 V5 S36 1988

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation produced a series of general histories on early America entitled *The Foundations of America*, of which this volume is a part. Scott and Lebsack are both academic historians who have published on women's history and the history of the American South. Here they provide a short introduction to the history of women in Virginia from the beginning of English settlement.

Southern, Ed, ed. *The Jamestown Adventure: Accounts of the Virginia Colony, 1605–1614*. Winston-Salem, N.C.: John F. Blair, 2004. F234 J6 J333 2004

The author traces his ancestry back to John Southern, who arrived in Jamestown in 1619. He has collected contemporary accounts and documents from 1605, two years before settlement, through 1614, ending with the marriage of Pocahontas and John Rolfe. Of particular note, Southern includes two Spanish documents about the Virginia colony and material related to the shipwreck that inspired William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*.

Tate, Thad W., and David L. Ammerman, eds. *The Chesapeake in the Seventeenth Century: Essays on Anglo-American Society*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1979. F187 C5 C58

Although these essays grew out of a conference held in 1974, they remain critical to understanding the development of recent historiography on seventeenth-century Virginia. The scholars represented in this work reflected an emerging emphasis on new social history research and methodology applied to Colonial America. They identified many of the themes that would develop through later scholarship and defined the "Chesapeake" as a cohesive region for academic study.

Tisdale, D. A. *Soldiers of the Virginia Colony, 1607–1699: A Study of Virginia's Military, Its Origins, Tactics, Equipment, and Development*. Richmond: Dietz Press, 2000. F229 T584 2000

Tisdale provides a narrative overview of military actions conducted during the seventeenth century in Virginia and also includes chapters that discuss the development of the Virginia militia, arms and armor used by Virginians, fortifications in the colony, and a listing of military equipment mentioned in surviving primary source documents from seventeenth-century Virginia.

Series

Jamestown 350th Anniversary Historical Booklets. Williamsburg: Virginia 350th Anniversary Celebration Corporation, 1957. F229 V795

Twenty-two booklets were published covering various events and the history of Jamestown and early colonial Virginia to commemorate the 350th anniversary of Jamestown.

Web Sites

The Web sites are arranged in two categories. The first one, "Jamestown," lists the sites that concentrate on the island and the first years of the colony. The second one, "Native Americans," is a list of Web sites that provide useful information about the native people the colonists encountered.

Jamestown

Jamestown Settlement

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation

<http://www.historyisfun.org/jamestown/jamestown.cfm> [viewed 1/10/2007]

This Web site covers useful information on the Jamestown site and how to get there. The combination of new gallery exhibits, a new introductory film, and living history at Jamestown Settlement provides a unique learning experience for children and adults alike. Jamestown Settlement tells the story of the people who founded Jamestown and of the Virginia Indians. It traces Jamestown's beginnings in England and the first century of the Virginia colony and describe the cultures of the Powhatan Indians, Europeans, and Africans who converged in 1600s Virginia. Outdoors, visitors can board replicas of the three ships that sailed from England to Virginia in 1607, explore life-size recreations of the colonists' fort and a Powhatan village, and tour a riverfront discovery area to learn about European, Powhatan, and African economic activities associated with water.

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Barbour, Philip Lemont, comp. *The Jamestown Voyages under the First Charter, 1606–1609: Documents Relating to the Foundation of Jamestown and the History of the Jamestown Colony up to the Departure of Captain John Smith, Last President of the Council in Virginia under the First Charter, Early in October 1609.*

Cambridge: Published for the Hakluyt Society at the University Press, 1969. G161 H2 2d. ser., no.136–137

The Hakluyt Society is a British organization founded in 1846 and named for Richard Hakluyt (1552–1616), the English collector and editor of documents on early travel and voyages. The Society publishes annotated collections of primary documents related to the history of exploration and travel. These two volumes are a compendium of sixty-three documents arranged chronologically from the issuing of letters patent to Sir Thomas Gates in 1606 to the departure of Captain John Smith from Virginia in 1609. Barbour has provided introductory essays for each section of the volumes as well as bibliographic and explanatory annotations to each of the sources.

Billings, Warren M., John E. Selby, and Thad W. Tate. *Colonial Virginia: A History.* White Plains, N.Y.: KTO Press, 1986. F229 B631 1986

The final book to be published in the series *A History of the American Colonies in Thirteen Volumes*, *Colonial Virginia: A History* was produced as a collaboration between three distinguished historians. The work served as a synthesis of then newly-emerging themes in Colonial Virginia history. Warren Billings contributed the chapters related to the seventeenth century and emphasizes the persistence of English cultural values amidst the many difficulties encountered during the first century of settlement.

Billings, Warren M. *A Little Parliament: The Virginia General Assembly in the Seventeenth Century.*

Richmond: Library of Virginia; Jamestown 2007/Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, 2004. F229 B55 2004

The author, a renowned scholar, depicts the founding and evolution of the Virginia General Assembly, the oldest legislative body in the New World. He describes the establishment of legislative traditions in Jamestown, which formed the basis of representative government in the colony and later in the young republic.

Bond, Edward L. *Damned Souls in a Tobacco Colony: Religion in Seventeenth-Century Virginia.* Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 2000. BR555 V8 B66 2000

Bond details many of the ways in which individual religious belief and community practice in seventeenth-century Virginia reflected both continuity with and change from Anglican observances in England during this period.

Breen, T. H. *Puritans and Adventurers: Change and Persistence in Early America.* New York: Oxford University Press, 1980. F67 B83

Breen is a historian who has written on both seventeenth-century Massachusetts and Virginia. In this series of collected essays, he makes explicit comparisons of the cultural development in these colonies.

Bridenbaugh, Carl. *Jamestown, 1544–1699.* New York: Oxford University Press, 1980. F234 J6 B7

Bridenbaugh has produced a narrative of early Virginia history for general readers that places Jamestown as a central focus to the growth and future direction of the colony. He covers many aspects of seventeenth-century history while also offering some controversial interpretations of Virginia's native peoples.

Hatfield, April Lee. *Atlantic Virginia: Intercolonial Relations in the Seventeenth Century.* Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2004. F229 H274 2004

Hatfield uses this study to place colonial Virginia within the broader context of the Atlantic world by emphasizing the influence of other European colonial powers on Virginia and the importance of economic networks that included Native Americans and the Caribbean.

Jamestown — Why There?

George Mason University

<http://www.viriniaplaces.org/vacities/7jamestown.html> [viewed 11/18/2006]

This page is part of a larger Web presentation on Virginia Places and the Geography of Virginia. Developed by George Mason University professor Charles A. Grymes for his Geography of Virginia class, it explains why the colonists selected the Jamestown site. In addition, it provides numerous links to Jamestown and colonial Virginia–related Web sites.

Jamestowne Society: History

The Jamestowne Society

<http://www.jamestowne.org/history0.htm> [viewed 11/18/2006]

The Jamestowne Society, a hereditary organization composed of descendants of Jamestowne inhabitants prior to 1700, has provided a Web site featuring information about its history. Included are a chronology of Jamestown (1607–1700); biographies of Captain John Smith and Pocahontas; essays on the royal charters, survival, and period fashions; and a bibliography for further research.

Jamestown 2007: 400th Anniversary

Richmond Times-Dispatch

<http://explorejamestown400.com/> [viewed 2/15/2007]

The Richmond newspaper has created an impressive Web site in commemoration of Jamestown 2007, offering links to articles that cover the events leading to the celebration in May. In addition, the site provides a multimedia column, “Through Your Eyes,” in which visitors are asked to submit their own photos, and a calendar of current events celebrating the anniversary. A narrative interactive video—consisting of sections called The Journey, James Fort, Dig the Fort, Indian Village, and the Chesapeake Bay—allows the viewer to explore at his own pace. The section Dig the Fort, which offers interactive games, is a teaching tool for children and an informative presentation for adults.

Captain John Smith’s Chesapeake Voyages

Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network

<http://www.baygateways.net/smithexplorations.cfm> [viewed 1/25/06]

Short descriptions are given regarding Captain John Smith and his exploratory expeditions around the Chesapeake Bay. The Web site further provides information about the native peoples he encountered and links to places he landed.

Native Americans

Indian Virginians: A Resource Guide

Library of Virginia

http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/native_american.htm [viewed 11/18/2006]

This lengthy bibliography compiled by Library staff members on resources, books, and original sources on Native Americans is available at the Library of Virginia.

Native Americans: Pre-Contact

The Mariners’ Museum

<http://www.mariner.org/chesapeakebay/native/nam002.html> [viewed 11/18/2006]

Information is given on the Powhatan Indians, dugout canoes, and the Algonquian language.

Powhatan Indian Lifeways

Colonial National Historical Park/National Park Service

<http://www.nps.gov/colo/Jthanout/Indianlife.html> [viewed 11/18/2006]

A good description is given of Powhatan life and especially of the Powhatan women at the time of Jamestown. The text is followed by a helpful bibliography.

Virginia's Indians, Past and Present

James Madison University

<http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/vaindians.htm> [viewed 11/18/2006]

This Web site offers historical information on the Powhatan Indians that Captain John Smith came in contact with in Jamestown, as well as lesson plans, bibliographies, and a variety of links, many to tribal home pages.

Wolf Creek Indian Village and Museum

The Museum

<http://www.indianvillage.org/history.html> [viewed 11/18/2006]

This site offers an archaeological report, photographs of excavations, and artifacts of a Woodland period Indian village.

A Study of Virginia Indians and Jamestown: The First Century

National Park Service

http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/jame1/moretti-langholtz/index.htm [viewed 1/16/2007]

This is a remarkable resource and an origination point for research. Published in 2005, the study was prepared for the Colonial National Historical Park, United States National Park Service, as an aid to park personnel in interpreting Native Virginians in exhibits and presentations at Jamestown Island.

Video Recordings

Jamestown Rediscovery: A World Uncovered. Produced by Cinebar Productions, Inc.; Richmond: Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, 1997. F234 J6 J355

This program tells the story of the discovery of the first permanent English settlement in America and provides an inside look at the process of modern archaeology, from how simple stains in the soil show the "footprint" of the fort to unearthing the remains of one of the colony's first settlers.

Death at Jamestown. Alexandria: PBS Home Video, 2001. F234 J6 D43 2001

Various explanations are given for the large number of deaths of settlers at Jamestown, the first British colony in the New World. This film reviews earlier explanations, such as starvation or diseases like malaria or typhoid fever, and examines new theories, such as sabotage through arsenic poisoning. It includes interviews with archaeologist William M. Kelso and pathologist Frank Hancock.

Unearthing Secret America. Alexandria: PBS Home Video, 2002. F229 U5 2002

This film offers a presentation on how the archeological digs at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, Colonial Williamsburg, and Jamestown yield clues to the daily life of slaves.

The Virginia Company: America's Corporate Beginnings. Boston: WGBH, 2001. F229 V824 2001

This film examines the original papers of the Virginia Company, as well as papers of those who were affected by the actions of the Virginia Company.

Pocahontas: Ambassador of the New World. [N.p.]: A & E Network, 1995. E99 P85 P62 1995

Pocahontas' life and role in the colonization of Virginia is presented along with her conversion to Christianity, her marriage to John Rolfe, and her presentation to the English Court.

Search for a Century: The Discovery of Martin's Hundred Plantation. Williamsburg: The Foundation, 1980. F234 M378 S53 1980

An interesting description and examination of the archaeological dig for the lost 1618 settlement of Wolstenholme on the James River in Virginia is presented here.

Jamestown, the First English Settlement in America. Chicago: Britannica Videocassettes, 1988. F234 J6 J6 1988

This film describes how the Jamestown colony found economic prosperity in tobacco planting. It uses John Rolfe as the central character in dramatizing the struggle between the aspirations of the colonists for self-government and the need for a strong central government during the beginning years. It also shows the development of plantations in the Jamestown settlement and the creation of the first legislative body in the New World.

Mary Dessypris
Christian Higgins
Gail Tatum
May 2007

Cover Illustration: "Indians of North America – Virginia" (99-0308). Library of Virginia Picture Collection.

