

Winter 2015/2016

PALACE

M A G A Z I N E

DRESS THE PART

A behind-the-scenes look
at the costume shop

AN OPEN BOOK

Collecting Governor
Tryon's library

'TIS THE SEASON

Candlelight celebrates
35th anniversary

The Past Shapes Our Present

As I read through the stories in this edition of Palace Magazine, I am reminded once again of how the past shapes our present. From the conservation of work tables and living history programs in the Kitchen Office, to the rare books you would find in Governor Tryon's library, this edition reminds us that there is always a new way to learn from our history, both as North Carolina's first permanent capital and as an organization.

Perhaps no story or tradition in our organization is more well-known than our Candlelight Christmas Celebration (see page 14). It began as a simple idea based on cider and cookies, but has grown to become the biggest and longest-running event in our 70-year history. I love being reminded of traditions like this because it helps us connect the dots between the colonial history people associate with Tryon Palace and all the work we do today.

On a personal level, one of the biggest behind-the-scenes stories of the past year was my time spent as Tryon Palace's acting director. With little preparation or notice, I was asked to leave my position in Raleigh leading the Education and Outreach Branch for the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, and step in as Tryon Palace's acting director in October 2014. It was a trial by fire that quickly taught me how much work goes on behind the scenes at Tryon Palace. It was clear to me that Tryon Palace possesses an organizational history and pride that began with "the Dreamers" (a group of determined women who began the Palace's collection and reconstruction) and continues through the staff today. I say with pride that we have a talented and dedicated staff who know what it takes to make the activities of the Palace shine like no other site in our state!

All of my time spent as the acting director has been rewarding, but for Tryon Palace to keep building a future, we have to know that a permanent director is in place. That's why I am so thrilled to welcome Lee Johnson as Tryon Palace's new executive director. Lee officially began Oct. 30 and it was immediately clear to me that his breadth of knowledge about public relations and public service will not only complement our ongoing efforts to become a more self-sufficient historic site, but he also has a love for Tryon Palace's history. As a historian, I am confident his awareness of our history has already given him a jumpstart on who we are and where Tryon Palace needs to go. I am confident that our unique skill sets will coalesce into a strong leadership team for the Palace's future. I see us moving forward together with great enthusiasm and a willingness to try new things even as we remember from whence we came.

I look forward to working with Lee to make the visions of our "Dreamers" continue well into the 21st century. I also would like to thank the staff, volunteers, and members of both the Tryon Palace Commission and Foundation for their support and assistance as I "learned the ropes" this past year. I am positive 2016 will be a wonderful year!

Sincerely,
LeRae Umfleet
Assistant Director, Tryon Palace



PALACE

Volume 13/ Number 2/ December 2015

EDITOR

Craig Ramey

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR & PHOTOGRAPHER

Cole Dittmer

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Matt Arthur, Richard Baker, Cole Dittmer,
Siobhan Fitzpatrick, Craig Ramey

DESIGN

Christine Farver

SPECIAL THANKS

Funding for this publication has been provided by the Tryon Palace Foundation. The Tryon Palace Foundation welcomes comments and suggestions for making this publication and all other matters related to serving its donors.

Tryon Palace Foundation
P.O. Box 1007,
New Bern, NC 28563
www.tryonpalacefoundation.org
contributions@tryonpalace.org
1-800-767-1560

TRYON PALACE FOUNDATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. Merrie Jo Alcock
Mrs. Anne H. Bradford
Dr. James B. Congleton, III
Mr. Bernard George
Mrs. Cille B. Griffith
Mrs. Susan King Hackney
Mrs. Katherine C. Haroldson
Dr. Jim M. Hodges, Jr.
Mr. Lee Knott
Dr. Gordon B. LeGrand
Mr. Joseph P. Logan
Mr. Robert L. Mattocks, II
Mr. Nelson B. McDaniel (President)
Mr. B. Perry Morrison, Jr.
Mr. James W. Norment (Vice-President)
Mr. Daniel M. Roberts, IV
Mrs. Karen Segal
Mr. John A. J. Ward

Ex Officio

Mr. William C. Cannon, Jr. (Tryon Palace Commission Chairman)
Dr. Kevin Cherry
Mr. Lee Johnson (Tryon Palace Executive Director)

ABOUT TRYON PALACE

Located in New Bern, NC, Tryon Palace is home to the Governor's Palace, North Carolina's first colonial and first state capitol, and includes historic buildings, gardens and the North Carolina History Center, which revolutionizes the visitor experience through use of the latest interactive technology. Tryon Palace's mission is to engage present and future generations in the history of North Carolina from early settlement in 1710, the development of statehood and into the mid-20th century. It is dedicated to collecting, interpreting and preserving objects, buildings, landscapes and events that enrich understanding of the making of our state and nation. Additional information about special events, programming, group tours, venue rental, employment, and more:

Tryon Palace
529 South Front St.
New Bern, NC 28562
www.tryonpalace.org
(800) 767-1560

© Tryon Palace 2015

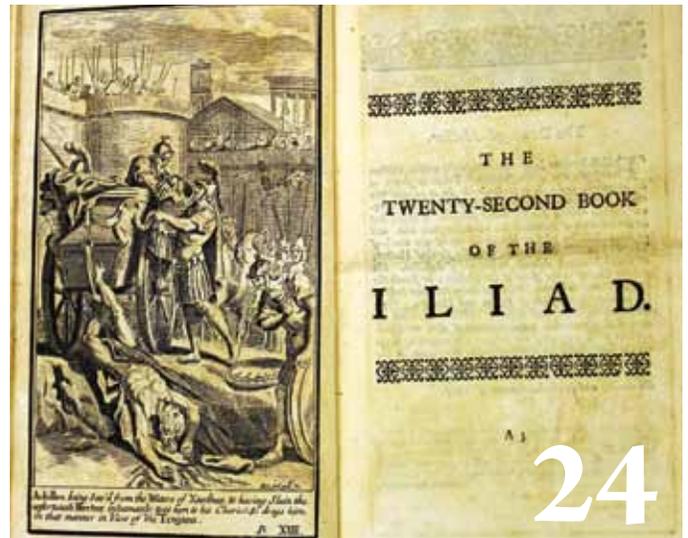




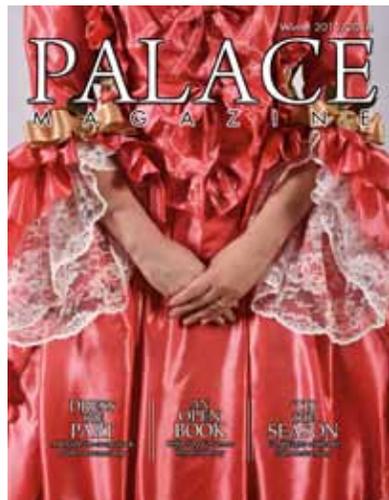
10



18



24



ON THE COVER

Historic Clothing Interpreter Leslie Lambrecht and her volunteers have been busy in the costume shop this year making new clothing for Tryon Palace's cast of characters. This piece is one of the countless costumes created in the Costume Shop for actors and characters featured during the 35th annual Candlelight Christmas Celebration.

PALACE

Winter 2015/2016

FEATURES

6 Through the Doorway

From the Civil War headquarters of General Ambrose Burnside, to the home of John Wright Stanly, join us as we take a journey across town with New Bern's famous Stanly House.

10 Stitching Time

Go behind-the-scenes in our costume shop with Tryon Palace's historic clothing interpreter, Leslie Lambrecht, and her dedicated sewing circle of volunteers.

14 A Feast for the Senses

Tryon Palace's Candlelight Christmas Celebration has grown over the past 35 years to become the Palace's longest running and largest event of the year.

20 A Walk Through History

New Bern's African American history comes to life in 2016 with the return of a Heritage Walking Tour, self-guided tour map, and lecture series.

24 Turn the Page

More than 70 percent of the titles from Governor Tryon's book collection have been reassembled in the Tryon Palace library. Which books will you look for during your next tour through the Palace?

DEPARTMENTS

2 Welcome

4 News & Notes

9 Q & A

18 Conservation

22 Behind the Counter

27 Tryon's Travels

29 Gift Guide

30 Mark Your Calendar



Tryon Palace Executive Director Lee Johnson. Photo by Cole Dittmer

Tryon Palace Welcomes New Executive Director

Lee Johnson, a North Carolina native who has spent most of his distinguished career working as a public servant in Washington, D.C., took the helm as Tryon Palace's new executive director on Oct. 30.

"I consider this a great honor and look forward to serving North Carolina in this important position," said Johnson. "I will do my best to preserve the memory of our patriot ancestors, to maintain the proud traditions established by generations of Palace leaders and to fulfill my leadership role as a part of the exceptional team that is already in place."

Some of Johnson's most notable accomplishments include working as legal counsel and Chief of Staff for two members of the U.S. House of Representatives, Leadership Chief of Staff for two members of the U.S. Senate, providing legal and public affairs counsel to a variety of organizations, and production support for live television coverage of the past two presidential inaugurations.

Johnson will be the sixth executive director to manage Tryon Palace since it opened to the public in 1959. Other directors include Gertrude Sprague Carraway (1956-1971), Michael Brantley (1971-1975), Donald Taylor (1975-1983), Kay Williams (1983-2012) and Philippe Lafargue (2014-2015).

"These leaders hold a special place of honor here at the Palace and in the modern history of North Carolina," said Johnson. "For me, a native son returning to his home state to follow in the footsteps of these exceptional leaders, this legacy is both inspiring and humbling."



"Passion for the Palace" author David Brook signs copies of his book at the Tryon Palace Museum Store. Photo by Craig Ramey

'Passion for the Palace' Honors Preservationist Minnette Chapman Duffy

Tryon Palace Commission charter member Minnette Chapman Duffy (1882-1951) comes to life in the new biography "Passion for the Palace: Minnette Chapman Duffy, Her Life and Dream to Restore Tryon Palace."

Published in October, "Passion for the Palace" is the product of author David Brook's many miles of travel, interviews with New Bernians and Duffy family members, and the examination of letters, minutes, reports, newspaper articles and photographs in federal, state, university archives, and in private ownership. Many of the 119 photographs in the book are available to the public for the first time.

"After 18 years of poring over documents, old newspapers, photographs, and interviewing people who knew her, Minnette Chapman Duffy and old New Bern came to life for me," Brook said. "I hope this book will enhance public appreciation of Mrs. Duffy's work and those who shared her passion for making Tryon Palace part of our lives today."

Publication of "Passion for the Palace" is made possible by a grant from Susan Bickel Scioli, Minnette Chapman Bickel Boesel and their late mother, Minnette Duffy Bickel. Copies are currently available in the Tryon Palace Museum Store, located at the North Carolina History Center.

Tryon Palace Foundation one of 23 Nonprofits Awarded Community Grant

The Tryon Palace Foundation was one of 23 nonprofit organizations awarded a grant from the Craven County Community Foundation in August. An affiliate of the North Carolina Community Foundation, Craven County Community Foundation awarded \$5,000 to support Tryon Palace educational programming.

The grant will help fund free teacher workshops for North Carolina teachers by providing them opportunities to learn 21st-century teaching skills that help bring the history of North Carolina to the classroom. These workshops will be completely free for teachers, including meals, hotel accommodations and more.

Those interested in applying for one of these workshops should call 252-639-3500 or email info@tryonpalace.org.



Costumed characters prepare to welcome visitors to the Robert Hay House.

New Bern Academy Museum Now Free, Hay House Open on Saturdays

Two of Tryon Palace's historic buildings now offer more options for visitors. The historic Robert Hay House is now open on Saturdays, while the New Bern Academy Museum is open for free from 12:30-4:30 p.m. every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Located near the corner of Eden and Pollock streets, the Hay House invites visitors to experience the daily life of a middle-class family in 1835. Visitors are invited to take a seat in the parlor and spend time visiting with the Hays and their friends as they catch up on the town gossip, help with daily chores — like making a feather bed — or help Mr. Hay as an apprentice in the carriage-making trade.

The New Bern Academy Museum, located at 508 New Street, is home to a variety of Civil War exhibits like "Face to Face: Civil War Sketches and Stories," which tells the story of the Union occupation of New Bern and the experiences of both soldiers and civilians, as well as exhibits about local architecture and the New Bern Academy's history as one of North Carolina's first public schools.

Tryon Palace Foundation President Receives NC Museum Council Award

Whether he is being named the "Voice of Craven County" by *Our State Magazine*, meeting with state leaders to promote the historical value of Tryon Palace, or volunteering his time for lectures and events, Tryon Palace Foundation President Nelson McDaniel is dedicated to the success of North Carolina's first permanent capitol.

For his dedication to Tryon Palace and other area organizations, McDaniel was named a recipient of one of the 2015 North Carolina Museum Council (NCMC) Awards for Special Recognition.

"Nelson's wealth of knowledge about New Bern's history, his dedication to volunteerism and commitment to Tryon Palace are truly remarkable," said Tryon Palace assistant director LeRae Umfleet. "He has long been a driving force in making the Tryon Palace Foundation so successful and helping the Palace expand and enhance its offerings to the thousands who visit every year."

McDaniel currently serves as the president of the Tryon Palace Foundation, a nonprofit group devoted to the prosperity, cultural enrichment, and historical significance of Tryon Palace. ☉

Stay Connected

For updates on Tryon Palace news throughout the year, follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, sign up for our newsletter at tryonpalace.org/contact-us, and visit our blog at tryonpalace.org/blog.



Photo by Cole Dittmer

Through the Doorway

An Exploration of the John Wright Stanly House

By Siobhan Fitzpatrick, Tryon Palace Research Historian



George Street is home to one of North Carolina's finest examples of Georgian architecture. Surrounded by towering oaks, lush camellia bushes, and a white picket fence, the Stanly House appears to have been rooted in its current location since the late 18th century. But to truly understand the origins of the Stanly House, one must begin with the man the house is named after — John Wright Stanly.

John Wright Stanly was born in 1742 and made his early fortune exporting goods from Jamaica. He first arrived in New Bern in 1772 and soon married Ann Cogdell. Stanly expanded his fortune during the American Revolution by outfitting several of his ships as privateers, and as a result, purchased a large city lot in New Bern bounded by Middle, New, Hancock, and Broad streets. By 1783 a new house facing Middle Street had been completed, and Stanly and his family moved into their new home by 1784.

The house is a five-bay, center-hall, Georgian design that is regarded today as one of the region's finest surviving examples of the period. Even still, the architect and builders of the house remain a mystery. Different architectural elements suggest that the architect may have been John Hawks, who designed Tryon Palace, or James Coor, who was active in New Bern at the time. The Philadelphia nature of the interiors suggests the builders and craftsmen who completed the house may have included some of the same men John Hawks recruited from Philadelphia in 1767 to work on the Palace.

John Wright Stanly and Ann Cogdell Stanly only enjoyed their fine new home for a few years. In 1789 they both contracted yellow fever and died within a month of one another. Leaving behind six young children, their eldest son John Stanly inherited the house when he came of age.

John Stanly married Elizabeth Franks in 1795 and they settled in the Stanly family home in New Bern. Stanly became a respected lawyer and political force within the state of North Carolina, his memory marred by the death of Richard Dobbs Spaight in the duel the two men fought over political differences in 1802. John Stanly and Elizabeth Franks Stanly had nine children who lived to adulthood — eight sons and one daughter.

Their daughter, Elizabeth Mary Stanly, eloped with Captain Walker Keith Armistead and on Feb. 18, 1817, while visiting her family in New Bern, Elizabeth Mary Stanly Armistead gave birth to Lewis Addison Armistead. A career officer, Armistead served with the Confederacy during the Civil War and was killed at Gettysburg. Not all of the Stanly descendants supported the Confederacy; Edward Stanly, son of John Stanly and Elizabeth Franks Stanly, returned to federal occupied New Bern in 1862 as the military governor of North Carolina. Edward Stanly only remained a short time and resigned the following year.

John Stanly's heirs had sold the family home by the Civil War, but it remained in use during the occupation of New Bern. First used by General Ambrose E. Burnside for his headquarters in New Bern, the home was later used as a convent by the Sisters of Mercy, nuns who served as nurses in the nearby Union hospitals.

More substantial changes were not made to the house until it was purchased by James A. Bryan in 1884. Bryan built additions and remodeled parts of the home. His heirs sold the house in 1932 along with the land so a new Federal Court House could be built. This required the Stanly House to be moved from its original footprint on Middle Street to New Street. Of course, there was still one more move on the horizon for the John Wright Stanly House.

In 1935 the New Bern Library Association took possession of the house and operated the town's library out of the Stanly House until 1966. By the mid-1960s the New Bern Library Association was looking for a new modern space for the library but still wanted to preserve the Stanly House. They offered to donate the Stanly House to the Tryon Palace Commission if the Commission could arrange for a new location and moving the house. The Commission agreed



Miniature Portrait of Ann Cogdell Stanly (1770), daughter of Richard Cogdell and Lydia Duncan. She married John Wright Stanly and together they had nine children, three died in infancy, the eldest surviving son was John Stanly.



James W. Ford portrait in oils of Elizabeth Franks Stanly (d. 1843), wife of John Stanly. Painted in 1820.



When the New Bern Library Association donated the Stanly House to the Tryon Palace Commission in 1966, it was with the condition that the Commission move the house from New Street to a new location. In December of that year the original Georgian section of the house was moved to a new foundation on George Street near Tryon Palace.

and plans were made to relocate the Stanly House once again, this time to George Street.

The Stanly House made its final move to a new foundation on George Street on Dec. 12, 1966. The decision was made to only move and restore the original Georgian portion of the house and not the later Bryan, Victorian-era additions. The meticulous restoration began in 1966, continued through 1971, and the extensive furnishing plans were completed in 1972.

The Stanly House had two grand openings; the first was for the Stanly gardens on April 1, 1971, during which the ribbon was cut by Stanly descendent Snowden S. Albright, and the second was for the house itself on April 19, 1972. First Lady Patricia "Pat" Nixon was the guest of honor during the Stanly House's second opening and given the distinct honor of cutting the ribbon.

Today, the Stanly House story continues with daily guided tours that invite visitors to learn about John Wright Stanly and his son John Stanly, as well as the building's architecture. If you are interested in learning more about the Stanly House or for ticketing information, visit www.tryonpalace.org or call 252-639-3500. ☼



The John Wright Stanly House opened to the public in 1972 after six years of restoration work. First Lady Patricia "Pat" Nixon was the honored guest at the dedication ceremony. She cut the ribbon with May Gordon Latham Kellenberger, officially opening the house to visitors.



Tryon Palace interpreters, dressed in colonial costuming, visiting the North Carolina State Capitol building in Raleigh.

Why was the Capital Moved to Raleigh?

By Matt Arthur, Tryon Palace Living History Program Coordinator

In today's world, the concept of moving something as important as a state capital seems foreign. As a large city and business hub in the Research Triangle that also supports the arts, Raleigh makes sense as the capital. This was not always the case, however. In fact, when New Bern was selected as the capital of the colony of North Carolina, Raleigh did not exist.

Before discussing why the capital moved to Raleigh, it might help to understand why any of North Carolina's capitals moved at all.

Just as today, delegates to the colony's government had to travel to the governmental sessions. In the 18th century, that could take quite some time; so, capitals tended to be in the center of where the population was located. Edenton was selected as the capital before New Bern, but during the many years of planning it took to prepare for this the population shifted and Edenton was not the center any more. A new capital was needed and, until the location could be decided upon, the capital moved around. New Bern was selected at that time because, in the 1760s, it was in the center of the colony's population and had water access.

The Revolutionary War made New Bern a less attractive option as the capital. British forces could access the capital by water and land. During the war, New Bern was technically the capital but meetings moved around between other towns, often further inland. After the war, this situation and the fact that the population center had moved further west, sent legislators searching for a new capital.

Fayetteville, a business center that was handily located on the Cape Fear River, was put forward as an option but eventually a section of land in Wake County was chosen. This land was purchased from Isaac Hunter, who owned a tavern and large tracts of land nearby, and was not only centrally located, but also sat near the intersection of two important roads. One traveled east to west, connecting both sides of the young state, and the other traveled north and south, connecting Petersburg, Va. and Charleston, S.C. This land was purchased in 1792 and the construction of the new capital began. The new State House was completed in 1794 and Tryon Palace's 24-year distinction as the capitol of North Carolina came to an end. 📍





A wall of thread spools hangs over the sewing machines inside the Tryon Palace Costume Shop. Opposite: Tryon Palace historical interpreter Emily Griffin wearing a dress made from scratch in the Costume Shop for the 35th annual Candlelight Christmas Celebration.

Stitching Time

A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Costume Shop

Story and Photos by Cole Dittmer

Take a wall of thread spools, stacks of fabric, and rows of clothing, hats, shoes and wigs that span centuries, add the whirl of dueling sewing machines, and there is the Tryon Palace costume shop. At the center of it all is Leslie Lambrecht, Tryon Palace historic clothing interpreter, carefully configuring the pieces with her dedicated volunteers to produce the historical clothing of the Palace guides, Kitchen Office cooks, blacksmiths, and other historic interpreters around the site.

Like the historical clothing she and her team build from scratch, Lambrecht has sewn her career experiences together to arrive where she is now. Although she attended Virginia Tech, Lambrecht built most of her career experience on the job at places like Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Coconut Grove Playhouse in Miami, various theatres in Philadelphia, or even making nursing students' uniforms.

"Most of my learning has been out on the job and it is certainly more practical for this sort of job," Lambrecht said. "In high school I was always involved in the theatre and I liked the woman who was doing our costuming so I would always go with her ... that helped my interest."

It was while working at Busch Gardens that Lambrecht was able to polish her skills in creating and altering historical clothing.

"It was a very interesting experience ... it was kind of a lesson in honing your skills," she said. "I did a lot of these things in college but when you are doing it every day and they say, 'here are 15 tailcoats you have to put together,' you get good at that fast."

Attention to detail is important for the costumes produced at Tryon Palace because often visitors are standing close to the historical interpreters wearing them, Lambrecht said. That is one way in which she discovered costuming for a historical site is different than for the stage; there is typically a 20-40 foot buffer between the audience and the clothing at the theatre.

Since starting work at Tryon Palace in January 2015, Lambrecht has picked up where her predecessor, Laura Rogers, left off and has expanded the costume stock. Her work so far has mostly consisted of making new clothing, especially for the male historic interpreters because there was a shortage in menswear.

"Laura [Rogers] was amazing," Lambrecht said. "The dresses she made were beautiful, even the simple ones are impeccably well made, so I knew I didn't have to worry about those sorts of things. While there is a nice stock to pull from, sometimes it is just not the right size or it just doesn't work for some reason. Rather than trying to redo something that is just never going to be right, it is easier to make a new one."

A Day in the Costume Shop

On Sept. 28, 2015, Lambrecht was busy laying out the pattern and cutting a new set of short stays, a traditional women's undergarment used from the 16th to 19th centuries. Two of her volunteers, Judy and Lori, worked on other projects like attaching pockets to an 18th-century men's vest made of a silvery green fabric with gold accents.

2016 Behind-the-Scenes Tours of the Costume Shop

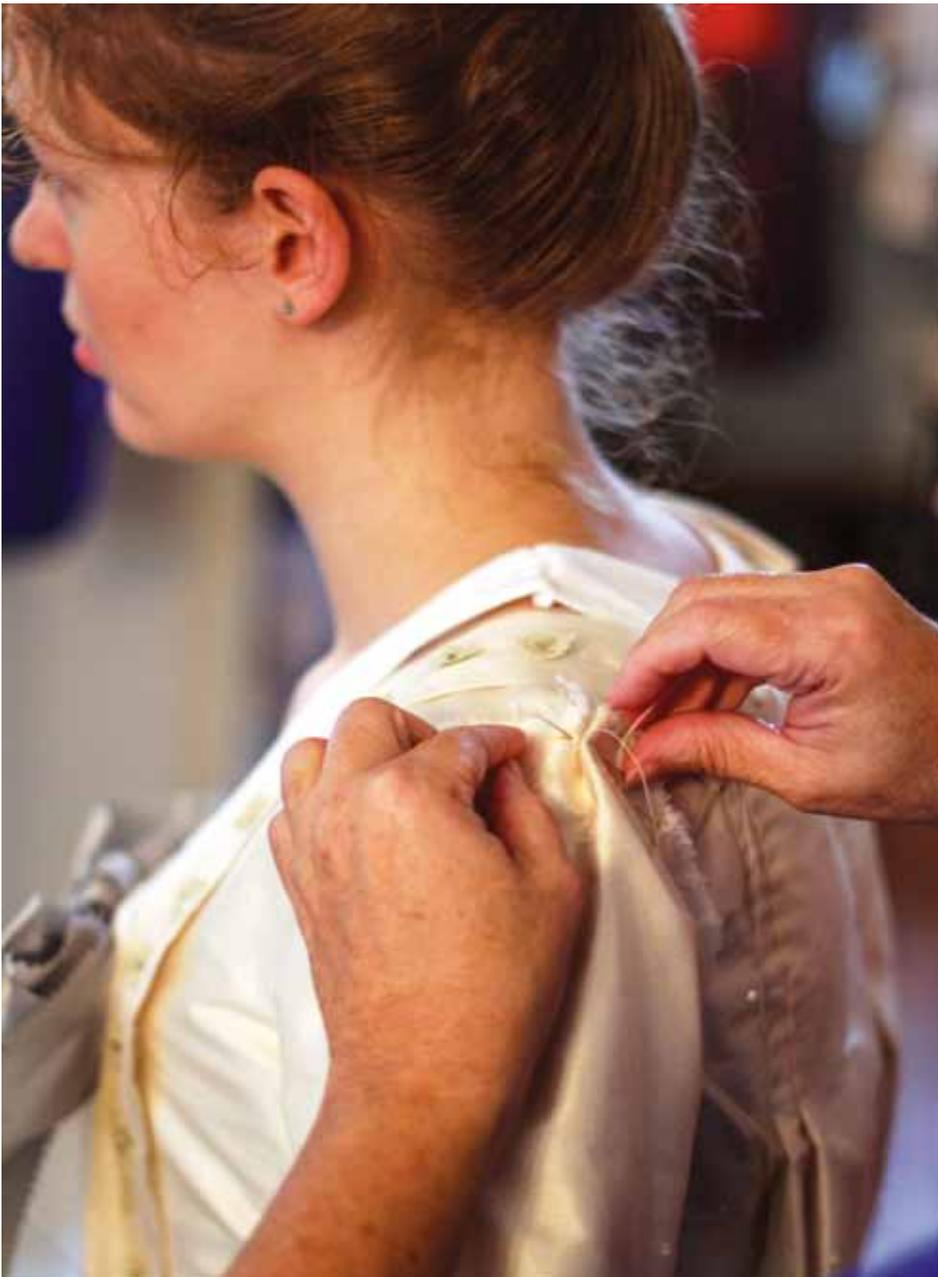
Join Tryon Palace's historical costumer throughout the year for behind-the-scenes tours of the costume shop. Tours are held in the costume shop and include workshop and storage areas on the first floor, as well as discussions related to costume research, techniques, and current projects.

Tickets are included with a One Day Pass or may be purchased separately.

All tours start from the Waystation at 2 p.m. and will be held on the following dates:

Jan. 5, 26; Feb. 2, 23; March 1, 22; April 5; May 3, 24; June 7, 28; July 5, 26:

Aug. 2, 23; Sept. 6, 27; Oct. 4, 25; Nov. 1, 22; Dec. 6



Tryon Palace historic clothing interpreter Leslie Lambrecht sews a sleeve onto the dress made for Princess Sophia Carolina Matilda in the 35th annual Candlelight Christmas Celebration.

Judy and Lori are part of a rotation of about eight volunteers that help Lambrecht in the costume shop. Some, like Lori, had careers in tailoring and alterations, while others like Judy have been lifelong home hobbyists.

"I have been very fortunate that I do have some wonderful volunteers that come in," Lambrecht said. "Most come in once a week but Judy comes in five days a week and has really become my right hand in here."

The costume shop is stocked with an assortment of fabrics, varied in material and pattern, so the costumers can create something for any era. The clothing eras covered at Tryon Palace include the 1770s for the Governor's Palace, 1800-1820 for the Stanly House, 1835 for the Dixon and Hay houses, and the Civil War era for special occasions like Civil War Weekend.

"The patterns of the periods are very specific so we try to keep them in the right patterns," Lambrecht said. "You just have to do your research and think about what would have been available at the time. Finding natural fibers is the big thing for us. Any of the daywear and especially anything in the kitchen or blacksmith shop has to be natural fiber for safety."

There is no shortage of research when it comes to historical clothing and the costume shop keeps a selection of books and reference materials on hand. However, Lambrecht said there is not a lot of information on the fashions specific to colonial America and that, when costuming for that era, she turns to British fashions.

"You do have to go to more British sources, but once you find those sources, you have to remember this was New Bern and you have to think about what would have been able to come in because it had to come by ship," she



Clockwise from top left: 1.) Costume Shop volunteer Lori Chase sews pockets into a waistcoat. 2) A coat of green velvet with gold trim and buttons to be worn by Governor Josiah Martin in the 35th annual Candlelight Christmas Celebration. 3) Handmade gold roses adorn a dress made for Candlelight. 4) Tryon Palace historic clothing interpreter Leslie Lambrecht cuts fabric for a set of short stays.

said. “You just have to work with the history of the time to surmise what it would have looked like.”

For example, Lambrecht said while silk was popular in England it may not have been transported to the colonies as frequently as linen or wool, which were other popular fabrics of the time. Due to the climate of southeastern North Carolina, Lambrecht does not use many wool fabrics, but said colonials would not have been able to be picky because they often would have only had two pairs of breeches or dresses depending on their socioeconomic status.

“Usually the women’s dresses were a much more refined fabric, especially the ball gowns, because of what they were going to be used for,” she said. “The men’s fabric could be a little rough, heavy, and they had a wider range. Also men would be going to the tailor for their outfits and the women would make theirs at home. If they were wealthy they could go to the dress maker in town and we know there were a

couple dress makers in New Bern during that period.”

In addition to expanding the costume shop’s offerings, Lambrecht has also opened it up to visitors with special behind the scenes tours of the shop offered on a regular basis. During the tours, visitors can catch a glimpse inside the projects Lambrecht and her team are working on, like creating new historically accurate costumes for the various historical eras and making alterations to those pieces.

One of the projects Lambrecht and her team will be busy working on is the costuming for historical interpreters in the Hay House in preparation for it opening on a regular basis again in March 2016. The Hays were a working class family in New Bern that lived in the house on Eden Street through the first half of the 19th century, so the costuming will reflect their more modest lifestyle. This is just one of the many projects visitors can observe during behind-the-scenes tours of the costume shop, which will return on a monthly basis throughout 2016. ☼

A Feast for the Senses

Candlelight Christmas Traditions at Tryon Palace

By Cole Dittmer



“**H**istory is being made again at Tryon Palace with the decorating of the interiors of the first floors of Tryon Palace, John Wright Stanly House, Dixon House, Jones House, and Commission House for the Holiday Season,” wrote then Tryon Palace Commission chairman Kay Hewitt on Oct. 13, 1979. Jimmy Carter was President, “The Dukes of Hazzard” made its television debut, McDonalds introduced the Happy Meal, and Tryon Palace began its Candlelight Christmas celebration.



As early as 1972, Tryon Palace Commission records show a Christmas open house at the Palace with decorations, hot cider, and cookies. On Dec. 16, 1973, it was reported that “The 900 ginger cookies prepared by the housekeepers were eaten up by visitors during the week in the East Wing,” and the 1974 holiday open house brought 700 visitors to the grounds during the holidays for “the most successful Christmas open house to date.”

However, by 1979 it became evident to the Tryon Palace staff and commission that something was missing. In his report to the Tryon Palace Commission in the spring of 1979, Tryon Palace curator of education

Dabney M. Coddington, Jr. observed that “visitation is up at those restorations which genuinely put on a festive holiday decorative scheme for the season,” and that many of the visitors he spoke with “expressed a keen disappointment over the complete lack of interior Christmas season decorations.”

As a result of these findings, the Tryon Palace Commission unanimously passed Coddington’s proposal to decorate the interior of the buildings and Candlelight Christmas was born on March 31, 1979.

Mrs. Elinor Hawkins, now a Tryon Palace Commission member emeriti, was first appointed to the commission in

October 1974 and remembers the process of starting Candlelight.

“We wanted it not to compete, but to offer something similar to what other historic sites had like Biltmore and in Wilmington,” Hawkins said. “Now they come back year after year.”

One of the most prominent memories for Hawkins from the beginning of Candlelight was the efforts of key commission members in helping get Candlelight off the ground.

“What I remember was [commission member] Anne Harvey and [commission chairman] Kay Hewitt,” she recalled. “They started having some commission members volunteer to help them, and I remember one



Clockwise from top: 1) A wintry scene at Tryon Palace during Candlelight 1989. 2) A Tryon Palace interpreter sets a dessert tray in the Housekeeper's Office for the inaugural Candlelight. 3) Two Tryon Palace interpreters cook in the Kitchen Office, Candlelight 1985. 4) Volunteers assist Clara Curtis, second from right, place North Carolina symbols on the tree in the Jones House, Candlelight 1986.

year they stayed up all night for two nights with their committee getting ready for the big event.”

That was the first Candlelight, 1979-1980, and the Tryon Palace Commission decorating committee was hard at work with Tryon Palace staff members like horticulturist Herbert Rea and the interior floral decorators hired, H. Grady Wheeler, Jr. of Beaufort and Clifton Campbell West, of Trenton.

In Kay Hewitt's report to the commission on Oct. 13, 1979, all of the holiday decorations were outlined. There were to be dried boxes of herbs from the kitchen garden; cotton, okra, and greenery from the gardens; 10-foot tall native cedar trees, crochet snowflakes, pizzella wafers, burgundy velvet bows, popcorn and cranberry garlands, a gingerbread house, fresh fruits, spice balls, the antique toy collection of Mr. Jarvis, more than 600 candles, and much more. The food decorations included: dentelles cookies, Madelines, marzipan candies, suckling pig, ham, turkey, plum pudding, pies, cakes, and wassail and ginger cookies to be served to visitors.

Decorating a Palace

Tryon Palace gardens operation supervisor Keith McCleave was there to install many of the exterior decorations at the first Candlelight and has done so each and every year since. A New Bern native, McCleave started working with Herbert Rea and the grounds crew at Tryon Palace out of high school on a temporary basis. McCleave was planning on hitting the road with the soul band he was playing drums for when the fulltime job opened on the grounds crew.

“In the time of two weeks the band broke up, so I said I'd take the job and I have been here ever since then,” McCleave said. “I didn't know I would be here this long.”

For the past 35 years McCleave has helped to install the decorations designed for Candlelight.

“One thing that always was a tradition for me was to take up the centerpiece over the portico at the Palace and that was a task because it seemed like they added on more fruit every year,” he said, laughing. “That thing weighed about 80 pounds and I would have to go up a ladder with it, and I didn't like heights, but I did it anyway. I never really relinquished myself from the job.”

In the beginning of Candlelight, McCleave remembers all of the real fruit, food and greenery that was used. To prevent the fruit from spoiling they would house it in refrigerated trucks and then coat it with wax prior to installation.

McCleave also recalled a large block of cheese the Palace would order every year to put on the dining room table for Candlelight, along with the other food decorations.

“After Candlelight was over we used to throw the cheese away because nobody was into that until one guy was there one year and said, ‘Hey man, that



The Jones House Candlelight decorations with a horse-drawn carriage in front, date unknown.



Table décor inspired by 18th-century holiday traditions, Candlelight 1984.



The Dixon House stairwell decorated for holiday celebrations at Tryon Palace, date unknown.



The main staircase at Tryon Palace decorated for the holidays in 18th-century inspired decorations, Candlelight 1995.

cheese is good,” McCleave said. “Then that became a tradition, for those who knew about the cheese to eat big blocks of it afterward.”

In addition to his duties that come with installing decorations, McCleave was recruited to perform as the lead drummer for the Jonkonnu performances when it became a part of Candlelight around 10 years ago. McCleave said he had no idea what to expect from Jonkonnu — a 19th-century holiday celebration for enslaved African Americans around eastern North Carolina that featured singing and dancing, and can be traced back to Jamaica and West Africa.

“I came out for the first time and it was exciting, fun, and I felt like that story needed to be told,” he said. “It was like I was coming into a tradition of someone else and I was performing for them. I felt that energy and that is what sticks out the most to me from my years of doing it, that I was chosen to be a vessel for that spirit.”

Now, every year McCleave relishes his role as lead drummer for the Jonkonnu parade that makes its way down Pollock Street in front of the Tryon Palace main gates during Candlelight.

“I think the Jonkonnu is great for the community ... you don’t get it anywhere else in this area,” he said. “I know people who have come year after year just to see the Jonkonnu ... because people like to dance, they like to hear the drums, and they like to engage with it.”

Candlelit Perspectives

Greg Smith, owner of Mitchell Hardware in downtown New Bern, still recalls the sights, sounds, and smells of his first visit to Candlelight 29 years ago.

“I remember catching the bug of the Palace that night,” Smith said. “I was new to town even though I had been here before, but I caught it because I was actually living in the town of the Palace. For me Candlelight is not sensory overload, but the power of Candlelight is in your senses. Candlelight is the sights, the scents, the sounds.”

Every year the Smith family would fulfill their Candlelight tradition and Smith said he enjoyed watching his two daughters’ reactions to their favorite parts of the night like the glow of the candles, the cider and cookies, the dresses of the ladies at the Palace, or the performers outside.

“Candlelight is different for everyone and the experience is different for everyone,” he said. “I ask my children what they remembered about Candlelight as they grew up, and their memories of it included that it was always chilly, but that it was an excuse to get bundled up to go to the Palace.”

Around 10 years ago Smith was able to experience Candlelight from a different perspective while volunteering as the gatekeeper and greeter

Continued on Page 28

A Leg to Stand On

Conservation of a 19th-Century Work Table

By Richard Baker, Tryon Palace Conservator
Photos by Cole Dittmer



What is a Work Table?

In the 18th and 19th centuries, work tables were smaller tables designed for and used primarily by women. Hand sewing was considered “work” in the 18th century; thus, tables used for this function were given the name “work tables.” However, many of these tables were also fitted for writing purposes with pads mounted on top and pull-outs on the sides for setting candles for lighting. There were different options on these tables, including compartments for holding tools, pin cushions, and a cloth bag or pouch that hangs down for holding material and supplies. Work tables were primarily used in formal public rooms within homes (e.g., parlors and drawing rooms), and as a result they tended to be highly decorated with features such as brass casters, inlay, fancy veneer, and carvings.

Furniture has always been an integral component of the Tryon Palace Collection. From tables and chairs to bookcases and desks, each piece of furniture has its own story to tell. Some of those stories are told every day during tours of the Palace and historic homes, while others are revived when furniture is repaired in the conservation lab and put on display for special exhibits.

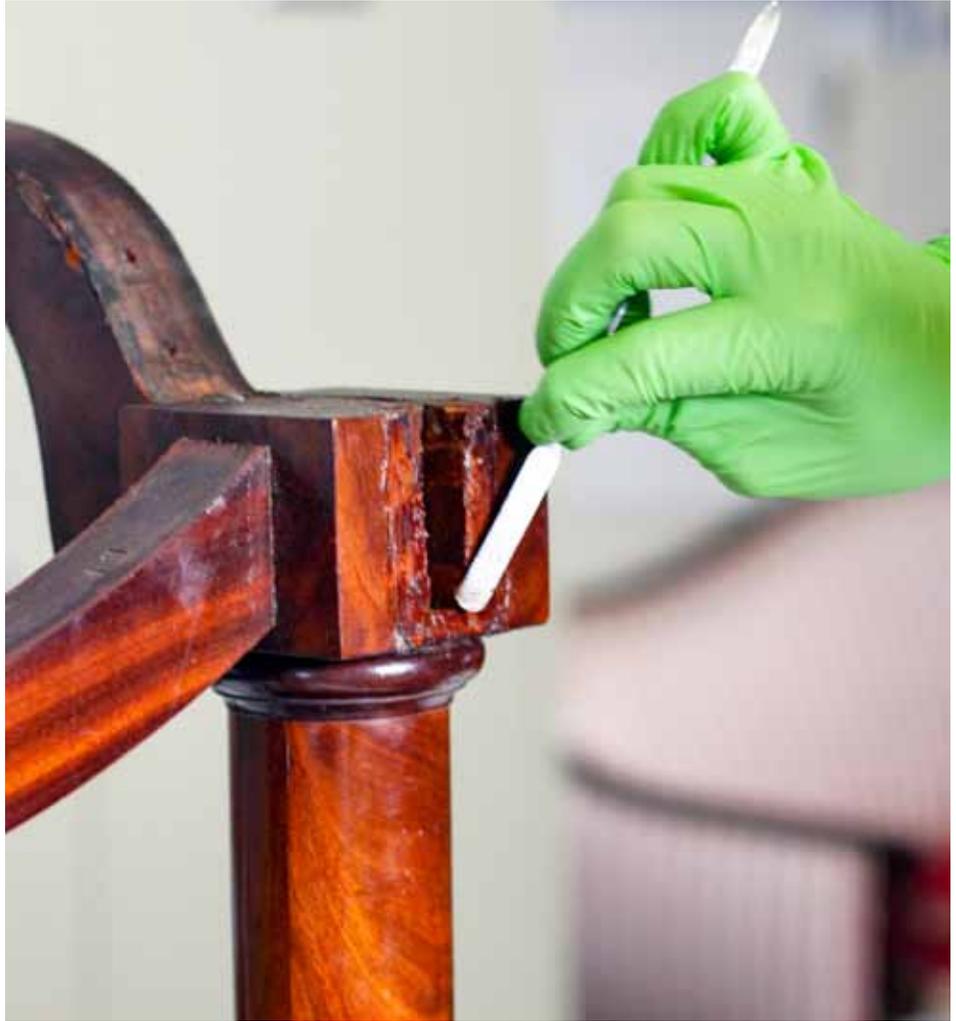
One of our most recent conservation projects was for a mahogany work table displayed in the recent exhibit, “Celebrating Tryon Palace.” Primarily acquired for furnishing the George W. Dixon House in the 1960s, the table is attributed to the period of 1825-1835 and was possibly made in Philadelphia, though the exact maker is not known.

This particular piece is unique in that the pouch is not actually a cloth bag but a hollow wooden shell with a reproduction fabric glued to the outside to give it a strikingly decorative appearance. The interior of the pouch is lined with newspaper print. The shell is actually attached to the bottom drawer, and when pulled out, features three sections of compartments that border the pouch opening. Within the front section is a pin cushion that compliments this piece. Work tables made in Boston around 1815 also feature this style of pouch.

The remainder of the structure is consistent with the work tables of the period. The top drawer is very simple — without compartments — and the table top features drop leaves that can be set up to extend the work surface. The piece stands on four legs, each featuring a brass lion’s paw on casters as the feet, and a mahogany veneer covers the surface of the table.

The curators decided to use this piece in the “Celebrating Tryon Palace” exhibit because it was so unique in design and appearance, and had not been on exhibit for a few years. When the table was brought to the conservation lab to survey its condition several issues were discovered that needed immediate attention.

First, there were several areas of veneer loss on the middle stretcher, as well as the legs. Some of these veneer pieces were found inside the drawers, while most of the pieces had been lost for years. While old repairs were coming loose and needed stabilization, it was also discovered that one of the legs was loose in the joint and would no doubt break if not repaired. Other issues included pieces of molding that had come off the base of the back, and the presence of scotch tape used to hold the drawer compartments in place.



Tryon Palace conservator Richard Baker prepares the dovetail joint on the work table to reattach the broken leg.

The primary repair was that of the broken leg. Luckily the legs are attached to the table by one single dovetail joint. For the leg in need of repair the joint had become loose and the weight of the table was bearing on that joint. If left alone, the weight of the table could have forced the dovetail joint to break or for a section of the leg to break at another location closer to the foot.

The leg was removed and work began to clean the two ends of the joint. Conservators applied Laponite — a synthetic clay, which when mixed with water creates a colorless gel — to the surface of wood where old glue and residue remained. This gel works into the adhesive or residue and causes it to lift up from the bonding surface so that with light application of a scraper the old glue is easily removed (several applications are often necessary to remove the older glue).

Because it dissolves in water, Laponite also is removed by water so that it does not remain on the wood once glue-up begins.

The leg was re-glued into the joint using high tack fish glue, which is a natural adhesive that comes from the skin of fish. Much like animal hide glue, it is reversible in water, but its consistency and set-up time are much easier to work with for furniture repairs.

Veneer that was found detached from the surface was also re-glued with fish glue. New pieces of mahogany veneer were cut and shaped to fit the areas of loss. These new pieces were colored using special conservation dyes and shellac to match the veneer already on the piece and then re-glued. The remaining conservation work was then completed, and the work table cleaned and waxed and ready for the “Celebrating Tryon Palace” exhibit. Although this exhibit has since closed, visitors will have an opportunity to view the work table during behind-scenes-tours of the conservation lab that will be offered in 2016. Visit our website for details on these upcoming tours. ☉

A Walk through History

African American Heritage Tour Returns to Tryon Palace

By Cole Dittmer

Around every block in downtown New Bern one can find evidence of the city's rich African American heritage and history. Whether it is a home built by an African American craftsman or a historic church, New Bern's African American heritage is alive in the many historic homes and structures still standing.



Interested in volunteering as a tour guide for the African American Heritage Tour?
Call Tryon Palace African American outreach coordinator Sharon Bryant at 252-639-3592.

**'Hallowed Grounds:
Sites of African American Memory'
2016 African American Lecture Series**

Jan. 1: 150th Anniversary Celebration of the
13th Amendment

Jan. 21: Pardons of Innocence:
The Wilmington Ten

Feb. 18: The Color of Courage

March 17: Up South: From 19th-Century Freemen
to 20th-Century Great Migration and Back

May 19: The Black Holocaust in America

July 21: How We Got Over: Singing Praises of our
Struggles from Cradle to Grave

Sept. 15: Racial Indoctrination: The Mechanisms
of Slave Control in North Carolina, 1715-1865

Nov. 17: Another Family Reunion:
A World Without Me

Learn more at www.tryonpalace.org/calendar



Sharon Bryant, Tryon Palace African American outreach coordinator, greets visitors in front of the John Wright Stanly House, which will be part of the upcoming African American Heritage Tour. Photo by Cole Dittmer

Around 2003 Tryon Palace began offering the African American walking tour to educate its visitors about the significant role African Americans played in shaping the city. However, as tour guides moved or key staff members left, the tour was offered less and less. In 2016 the renovated African American Heritage Tour will make its return along with a new brochure and map highlighting more than 30 historic locations around downtown New Bern and surrounding Craven County.

New Bern served as a haven for many African Americans during the early stages of the Civil War after Union forces occupied New Bern in 1862, and the city's African American population was the majority population in the area from 1800 to the 1930s. Conditions like this allowed the African American community to thrive in New Bern. Many of the city's houses and public buildings were built by African American craftsmen, while the city was also home to some of the oldest African American congregations in the Southeast.

Sharon Bryant, Tryon Palace African American outreach coordinator, said the dream of longtime Tryon Palace executive director Kay Williams was that the tour be offered every day through a staff member or volunteer versed in the information. Bryant is hopeful that will become a reality in 2016 with the new brochure and renewed push for the tour.

"When you go to a city you want to learn a little something about it ... and I think people will learn a lot through this tour," Bryant said. "Some towns you go to you can't find a whole lot of information like this."

Although the brochure will cover homes, churches, cemeteries, and public buildings within a 3-mile radius from Tryon Palace, the regular tour offered will cover a smaller area in the immediate central downtown New Bern area. However, Bryant said the tour could be extended if groups were on a bus or if visitors simply wanted to take the tour for themselves.

"Most of the time when people come here they don't know where to go, so we can pull

out the brochure with the map and start them off," she said. "At least they would have enough to get started and then they could find their way around town."

When the tour was offered on a regular basis, Bryant said it was a popular piece of the educational experience provided at Tryon Palace and an immersive way to connect with the unique African American history of the city. Once the tour returns on a regular basis, Bryant said it would become a popular feature at Tryon Palace again.

"I know that once we get the word out that it is back and there is a new look to it then I think you will have more people getting interested in it again," Bryant said. "I think it is a story that needs to be told here in New Bern."

The Tryon Palace African American Heritage Tour will be offered March to November on the third Sunday of each month. Tours begin at 2 p.m. and are included with the purchase of a One Day Pass, or may be purchased separately. ☻

Behind the Counter

Every Bride Deserves Her Cake

By Matt Arthur, Living History Programs Coordinator
Photos by Cole Dittmer



“**T**o everything,” as both the book of Proverbs and The Byrds state, “there is a season.” While modern people know the cycle of the seasons, in many ways we are very detached from them. Our colonial ancestors saw the seasons affect many aspects of their lives. The turn of seasons effected when foods were available and what jobs were to be done on the farm. In agrarian society, work on the farm influenced when government meetings took place and even when people married.

While we have a wedding season, we tend to think of it as being at its height in June. Colonial marriages appear to mostly have occurred from November through January, when the duties on the farm were

much less pressing than in summer. The bride and groom wore their best clothes; the white wedding dress was not yet a tradition. Ceremonies were rarely held in churches, with most happening either in the home of the bride’s parents or at the home of the member of the clergy officiating. After a simple ceremony, there was a large party hosted by the bride’s family. Depending on the family and their financial situation, this party could last for hours or days. There was, like today, a cake, sometimes two.

With weddings usually held in the winter, it was not unusual for the ceremony to happen closer to holidays when the family and friends were already coming together. One of these holidays, which is now



Tryon Palace Living History Programs Coordinator Matt Arthur mixes the ingredients for a bride cake in the Kitchen Office. Cole Dittmer photo

mostly forgotten, was Twelfth Night. This happened on Jan. 5, the night before Epiphany, the day the Magi visited the Christ child. Twelfth Night was the 12th day of Christmas and was often one of the biggest parties of the year. The night was ruled by a king and queen — the king dictated how the party would flow and the queen would traditionally make next year's cake and, in some places, host next year's party. To decide which guests received these roles, partygoers would draw from a special deck of cards or a bean and a pea would be baked into the cake for partygoers to find.

Recipes for a Twelfth Night Cake are not found before the early 19th century, while bride cake recipes can be found throughout the 18th century. A look at both kinds of recipes show many similarities. While we cannot know for certain, some historians theorize they may have started out as the same recipe — a rich, fruit cake.

Perhaps when George and Martha Washington were married Jan. 6, 1759, their wedding cake was not so far different than the Twelfth Night cake from the night before. Whether you are celebrating wedding season or Twelfth Night, we invite you to get a taste for history by making your own bride cake.

Bride Cake Recipe in the Colonial Kitchen

Take four pounds of fine flour well dried, four pounds of fresh butter, two pounds of loaf sugar, pound and sift fine a quarter of an ounce of mace, the same of nutmegs. To every pound of flour put eight eggs. Wash four pounds of currants, pick them well and dry them before the fire. Blanch a pound of sweet almonds (and cut them lengthway very thin), a pound of citron, one pound of candied orange, the same of candied lemon, half a pint of brandy.

First work the butter with your hand to a cream, then beat in your sugar a quarter of an hour. Beat the whites of your eggs to a very strong froth, mix them with your sugar and butter, beat your yolks half an hour at least and mix them with your cake. Then put in your flour, mace and nutmeg, keep beating it well till your oven is ready, put in your brandy, and beat your currants and almonds lightly in. Tie three sheets of paper round the bottom of your hoop to keep it from running out, rub it well your sweetmeats in three lays with cake betwixt every lay. After it is risen and coloured, cover it with paper before your oven is stopped up. It will take three hours baking.

– Elizabeth Raffald, “The Experienced English Housekeeper,” 1769

Bride Cake for the Modern Kitchen

We have reduced our recipe down from Raffald's to make it more manageable. Though, if you are expecting a wedding-sized crowd, feel free to make two, and reserve and increase the amount of candied fruit to use as the filling of a layered cake like Raffald directs.

1½ cup flour
 2 sticks butter
 1½ cup powdered sugar
 ½ teaspoon salt
 ½ teaspoon nutmeg
 ½ teaspoon mace
 (Optional: ½ teaspoon cinnamon and ginger)
 4 eggs
 1 egg yolk
 ¼ cup brandy
 ½-1 cup currants
 2 ounces slivered almonds
 ½-¾ cup candied fruit (such as candied orange peel, candied lemon. Glace cherries are a modern option.)

Optional Icing:

3 egg whites
 ½ teaspoon lemon juice
 ¾ cup powdered sugar

Directions

Preheat oven to 350F.

Grease a cake pan.

Cream together butter and sugar.

Separate the eggs; beat yolks until a pale yellow, beat egg whites to stiff peaks.

Combine yolks, butter and sugar.

Gently fold egg whites into the batter.

In small increments, fold in the flour, salt and spices.

Add in brandy.

Gently fold in currants, almonds, and fruit.

Fill the pan with batter (if small enough, you can go to the brim; this cake won't rise too much.). Smooth top of batter.

Bake around 70 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean.

The cake should be golden brown. Allow cake to cool before attempting to remove from pan.

When the cake is completely cooled, whip the egg whites and lemon juice until stiff peaks form. Gently sift and fold in the powdered sugar, a little at a time. Spread the meringue onto the cake and then place it in an even cooler oven for 15 minutes until the meringue sets (it sets into a marshmallow like texture).

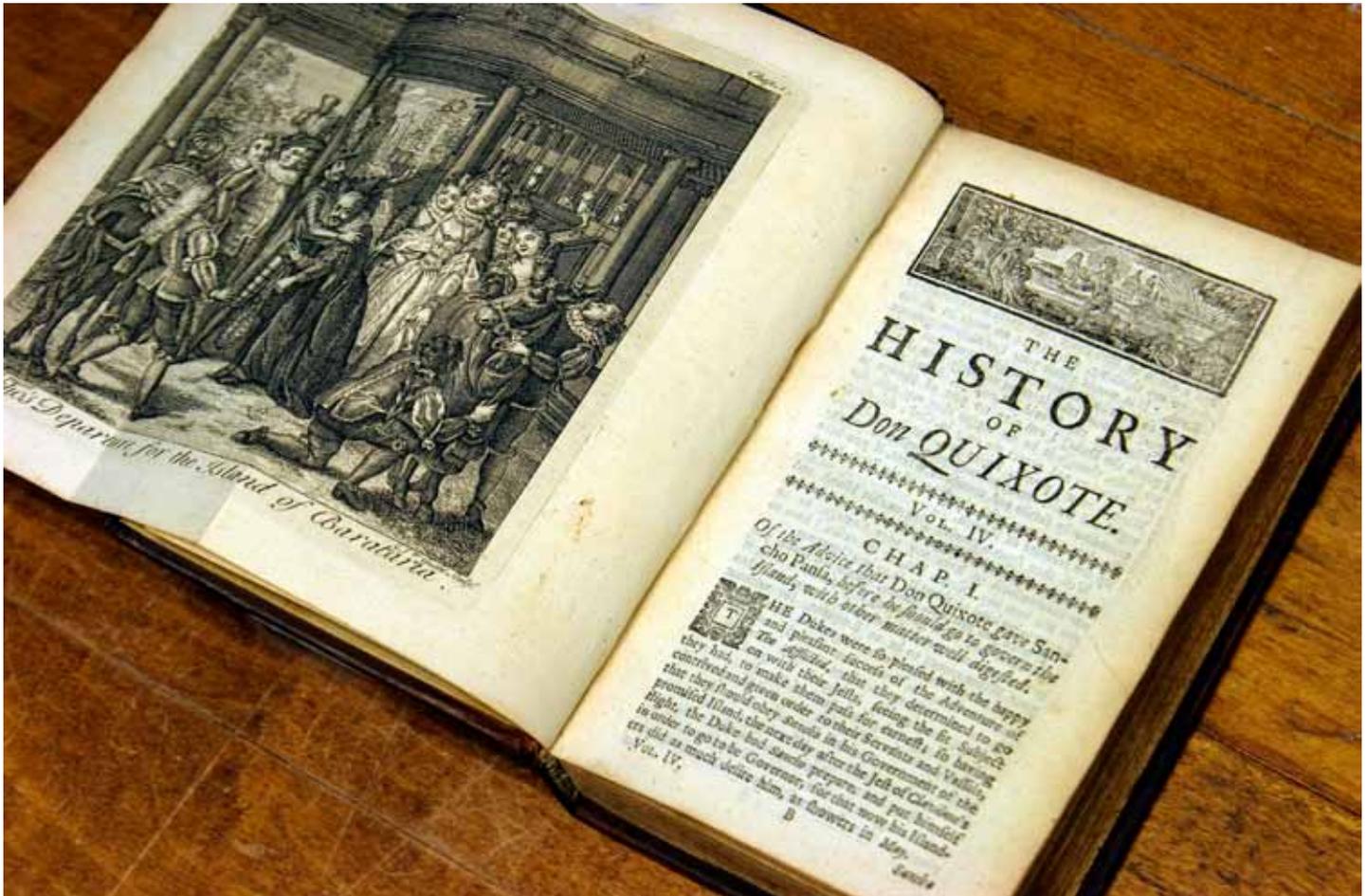


Illustration and opening pages of “The History of the Valorous and Witty Knight-Errant Don Quixote of the Mancha, Volume IV,” by Miguel de Cervantes and published in London, 1725.

Turn the Page

Inside Governor Tryon’s Library

Story and Photos by Cole Dittmer

From 17th-century travel books to military strategy, and the works of famous philosophers and authors like John Locke, Jonathan Swift, and Miguel de Cervantes, the library collected by Royal Governor William Tryon was one that spanned the breadth of his interests, as well as those of his wife, Margaret Wake Tryon.

More than 70 percent of Tryon’s collection has been reassembled at Tryon Palace thanks to an inventory created of everything in the family’s New York home, where they lived after leaving North Carolina. Work to recover the titles included in the inventory began in the 1940s with the movement to rebuild Tryon Palace and, as certain missing volumes became available, new acquisitions were made even after the reconstructed Palace reopened in 1959.

Governor Tryon was a collector of books and Tryon Palace research historian Siobhan Fitzpatrick said his collection was the result of many years collecting the volumes.

“Some of them would have been used as legal references as governor, some of them would have been for personal use and things that interested him,” Fitzpatrick said. “Tryon really did like books and he collected them wherever he went so when he was overseas and traveling in the military ... he was looking for the new publications.”

While Tryon’s inventory provides a list of what he had in his library, one thing that remains unclear is which of the volumes belonged to Tryon and which ones belonged to his wife. Margaret Tryon was known to have different interests from the upper class women of her time, including military strategy.

“She was a military strategist, she had an interest in history, and in religion,” Fitzpatrick said. “I strongly suspect most of the music books in the collection were hers because she had a real interest in music and from what we know she was a skilled musician.”

Fitzpatrick said she is interested in the fact that the Tryons had

access to such a wide variety of popular and classic works.

“You have someone who is in North Carolina, which at that time was isolated from the major printers, who is still getting these pieces ... and not living in a bubble,” she said.

Fitzpatrick said it took many years for a library system to become established in the colonies and that Tryon’s library would have served as a way for other upper class members of the community to gain access to the works.

“Even though it is unlikely he would have lent them to a wide range of people, he still would have been loaning them to good friends and the more elite residents of colonial North Carolina,” Fitzpatrick said. “His having that library helped to spread that information in North Carolina.”

Selected Works

“The Work of Dr. Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick’s, Dublin, Volume III”

Author: Jonathan Swift

Published in London, 1768

Jonathan Swift, the Anglo-Irish clergyman and author, is best known for his political and social satire, particularly with “Gulliver’s Travels.” Fitzpatrick said it is a book Tryon would have had in his collection as a popular work of the time and because he was astute enough to understand the satire.

“The History of the Valorous and Witty Knight-Errant Don Quixote of the Mancha, Volume IV”

Author: Miguel de Cervantes

Translated By: Thomas Shelton

Published in London, 1725, originally published in the early 1600s

Now considered a classic, the story of the misguided and romantic false knight Don Quixote would have been collected by Tryon as one of the modern classics of the time.

“The Chronology of Ancient Kingdoms Amended”

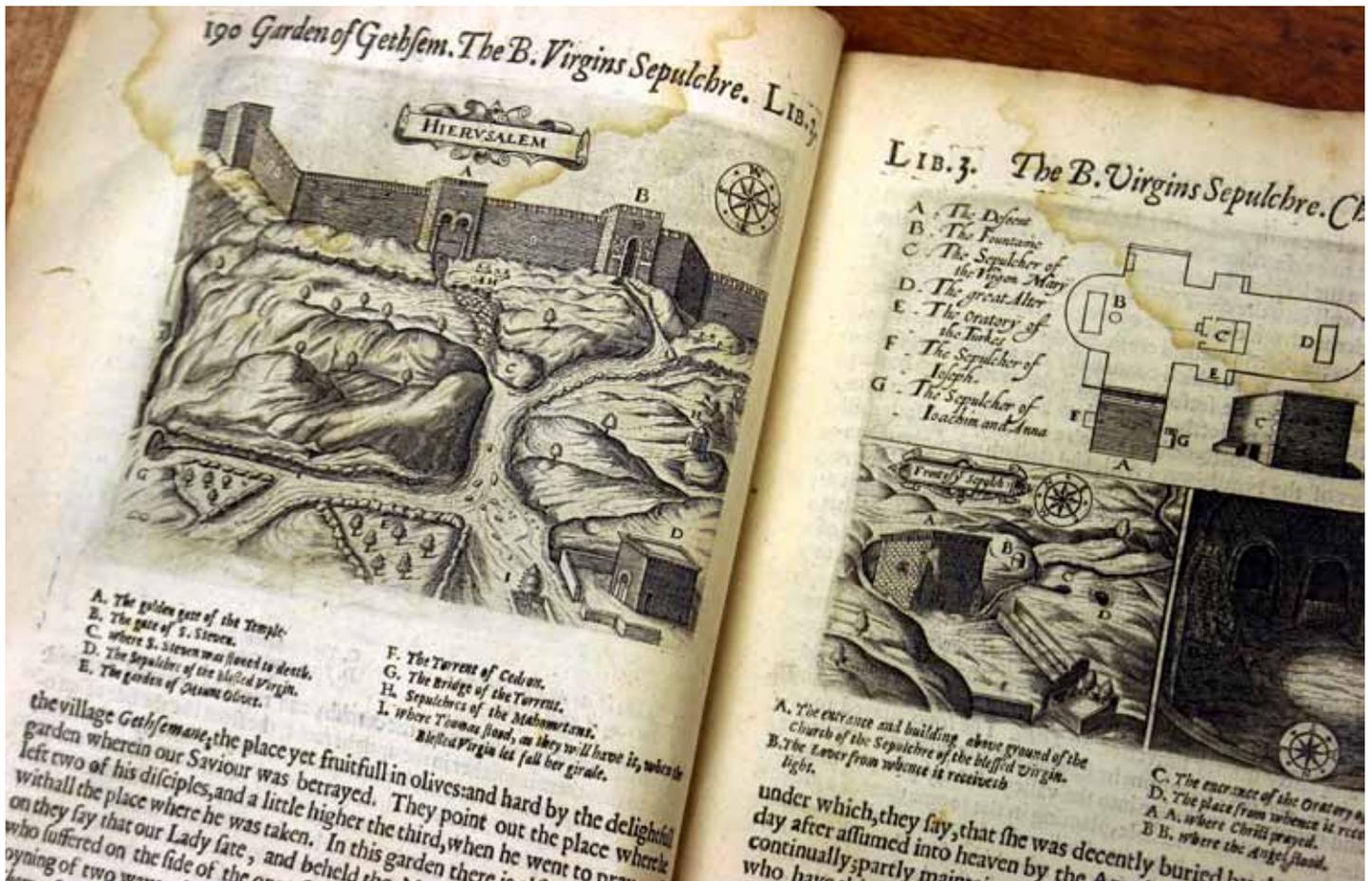
Author: Sir Isaac Newton

Published in London, 1728

This work by Sir Isaac Newton was published a year after his death and, according to the note to the Queen by the publisher, was something Newton wrote in his “vacant hours” as a “relief” from his other work. The inside cover page of the book notes that the work covers everything “From the first memory of things in Europe, to the conquest



Jonathan Swift’s “The Work of Dr. Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick’s, Dublin, Volume III,” published in London, 1768.



Illustrations inside George Sandy and Thomas Herbert's travel book, "A Relation of a Journey Begun in 1610."

of Persia by Alexander the Great." The volume housed at Tryon Palace is a rare first edition of the work.

"An Essay Concerning Human Understanding, Volume II"

Author: John Locke

Published in London, 1741

John Locke (1632-1704) was a controversial philosopher of his time but influenced many of the Revolutionary Era philosophers at the end of the 18th century. While many associate Locke's work with the American Revolution, Fitzpatrick said this work covers some of his writings on human development and his *tabula rasa* theory.

"Several of the philosophers in Tryon's time used Locke as their inspiration, so to understand what they are writing you should know what has already been said," Fitzpatrick said. "Tryon was reading the latest political treatises and it is interesting to see that while the revolutionaries were being inspired by Locke you also had a Royal Governor reading his philosophical treatises."

"A Relation of a Journey Begun in 1610"

Author: George Sandy and Thomas Herbert

Published in London, 1637-1638

One of the oldest books in Tryon's collection is a large travel book covering the exploration of Africa and Asia. Travel books were used by many Europeans to learn about the rest of the world, since travel was much more dangerous and time consuming during Tryon's time.

"The Tryons traveled more and saw more of the world than the vast majority of people in the 18th century," Fitzpatrick said. "William Tryon traveled in Europe, Margret Wake Tryon grew up in India, and together they saw several North American colonies."

Containing a variety of drawings and descriptions, the book provides a window into how western Europeans viewed the less explored places of the world and its inhabitants.

"Letters Writ by a Turkish Spy Who Lived Five and Forty Years Undercover at Paris, Volume VIII" (26th Edition)

Author: Giovanni Marana

Published in London, 1770

A series of fictional letters written by "Mahmut the Arabian," the work covers a fictional account of life in the French court from 1637-1682, from the end of Cardinal Richelieu's rule through the long reign of King Louis XIV. Like "Don Quixote," Fitzpatrick said Tryon would have collected this book as one of the popular works of literature of his time.

"The Iliad of Homer, Volume VI" (4th Edition)

Author: Homer

Translated By: Alexander Pope

Published in London, 1773

Alexander Pope's translation of the Homer's epic, "The Iliad," is one of the most well-known translations and Fitzpatrick said Tryon would have collected it as a classic. ☺

On the Road with North Carolina's First State Capitol



Hoping to spread Tryon Palace's mission beyond the boundaries of New Bern, "Treasures of Tryon Palace" is a new traveling program that brings costumed interpreters, artifacts from the collection, and Tryon Palace staff to cities around the state.

"Tryon Palace is not only important to New Bern, it's important to the entire state and beyond," said Tryon Palace Development Manager Anna Shepherd. "This gives us an opportunity to explain why we are so important, and hopefully others will be willing to spread that message as well. We can't stay only in New Bern and wait for people to find out about us. We have to go to them."

"Treasures of Tryon Palace" traveled through Concord and Raleigh in 2015, and has another event scheduled in High Point this spring. Events are typically held in conjunction with a cocktail reception hosted inside a supporter's private home or a local museum, and facilitated by the Tryon Palace Foundation. If you are interested in hosting a "Treasures of Tryon Palace" event in your hometown, please contact the Tryon Palace Development office at 252-639-3516. ☎

A Feast for the Senses



Candlelight now reaches beyond the Palace's historic homes to include circus performers like the Pickled Brothers Circus (left) and music from the 19th-century tradition of Jonkonnu (right).

for the event. Nearly every year since then, Smith has been stationed at the front gate, greeting every visitor that comes to Candlelight.

"If there were 3,000 people that come through, I speak to all 3,000 of them and enjoy every moment of it," he said. "When the sun goes down and you get the lights, smoke, and shadows, I always say, welcome to the most beautiful place in the state of North Carolina at this moment, and it really is."

While it may be the most beautiful place in the state of North Carolina at that moment for Smith, it is not always the most comfortable after standing outside for hours. Smith said he has experienced every kind of weather one could imagine at his station at the front gate but that, no matter the weather, the visitors are always happy.

"I see it more than anyone else because I hear it when they walk in the gate and I am the last person they see at night as they leave," Smith said. "It becomes very personal to me to hear how pleased they are, no matter if it is snowing or freezing cold. None of that matters if you have a great experience."

Lynne Harakal, New Bern Historical Society executive director, has joined Smith as a greeter at the front gate for a few years now and also enjoys hearing the positive reactions people have to the evening, sometimes in spite of the weather.

Growing up in Bethlehem, Pa., known as "Christmas City USA," Harakal is well-versed in holiday festivities and said Candlelight is a great focal point for the holiday season in New Bern.

"I think Candlelight is the highlight of it," Harakal said. "There are wonderful things that are going on downtown but it just sets a tone for what the holidays are in this community. It is a lovely community all year round but at the holidays it is especially nice."

Both Harakal and Smith said transitioning from being visitors to serving as volunteers has helped them appreciate the countless hours of work that go into Candlelight every year.

"It is much more complicated than it actually looks, but that is the sign of doing it well," Harakal said. "If it looks like it is simple and it all magically comes together then you have done your job well."

Traditions Continued

Looking back on his time at the Palace, McCleave is proud to be one of the people who helped Candlelight become what it is today, whether through installing decorations or educating new visitors about a forgotten tradition in Jonkonnu. However, as a result of that, he has yet to experience Candlelight for himself.

"I have never been to Candlelight as a visitor, even now after 35 years of it, and I have never had a chance to see any of the performers outside," McCleave said. "Maybe after I retire I will walk through it then because I have really never seen it, I only hear the responses if people liked it. Everything always does come together though and it really is a unique holiday experience."

While the Candlelight experience may be different for each visitor, the staff and volunteers who have been part of it for decades — like Hawkins, McCleave and Smith — are all happy to take on the task of Candlelight to provide that tradition year after year.

That commitment to the spirit of Candlelight began in its first year when, at the end of her Oct. 13, 1979 report, Tryon Palace Commission chairman Kay Hewitt explained that the committee would be working from 9 a.m. to midnight for a week. She surmised that, at the end of Candlelight, the staff and volunteers involved would be singing:

"Deck the halls with boughs of holly"
"Deck the houses with gingerbread frosted"
"Deck the trees with popcorn, golly"
"Deck the couches with us exhausted." ❁

Visit our blog for more behind-the-scenes photos from Candlelight at www.tryonpalace.org/palacemag

One-of-a-Kind Finds at the Tryon Palace Museum Store

The Tryon Palace Museum Store is not your typical gift shop. In addition to our wide selection of New Bern and Tryon Palace gifts, shoppers are always surprised to discover our eclectic selection of local artwork, food, jewelry, books, pottery, garden accents, and much more. With so many one-of-a-kind items to choose from, we've handpicked some of our favorites and shared them with you below. Which one will go on your list?



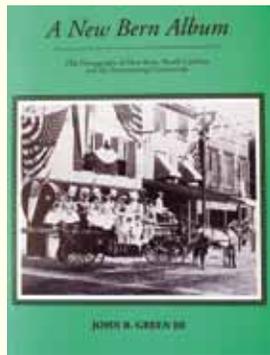
Tryon Palace Mug

Show off your love of North Carolina's first permanent capitol in this beautiful, high-quality pottery mug. **\$19.99**



Benaya Art Tile

Choose from several designs inspired by gardens or the ocean. Created by specially trained artisans, these tiles will add beauty to any décor. **\$39.95**



A New Bern Album

This book is a classic must-have for all New Bernians, new or old. This original John Green book is filled with illustrations and photographs of old New Bern and the surrounding countryside. **\$32.50**



Cultured Pearls and Red Bead Necklace

Handcrafted by New Bern artist, Alice Bilello. **\$25.00**

Cloister Bourbon Infused Honey

Enjoy the smooth and sweet taste of North Carolina honey with a hint of bourbon. Enjoy as a glaze on pork chops, salmon, and turkey, or make a stress-free dessert for friends by drizzling bourbon honey over pound cake, adding a scoop of vanilla ice-cream, and then drizzling just a little more bourbon honey. And let's not forget Sunday biscuits! **\$14.95**



Toby Jug

Meet Toby! A Toby jug is a pottery jug in the form of a seated person. Tobies date back to the 1760s. Our unique Toby takes the form of a seated, jovial, stout man dressed in the attire of the period, wearing a tri-corner hat that forms the pouring spout. Designed by John Brothers, Walsall College of Art, England. **\$69.95**



Water Bell

Our Water Bell — or thumb pot, as it is known in England — is based on a traditional 16th-century design. Made in England by Weston Mill Pottery, water bells provide a novel way to gently water delicate small plants and are ideal for watering seedlings in the greenhouse. To fill, simply submerge in water, then, covering the top hole with your thumb, carry the pot anywhere and the water will not leak. Remove your thumb and a fine shower descends from dozens of tiny holes in the base. Replacing your thumb over the hole will stop the flow instantly. **\$15.00**

We can ship any of these products right to your door. Call us at 252-639-3532 for shipping and ordering information.



2016 Calendar of Events

Garden Lecture Series: “You’re Not from Around These Parts”

Saturday, January 16

Bryce Lane, a three-time Emmy Award winning television personality, retired horticulture teacher at North Carolina State University, avid gardener, and entertaining speaker, will present a lecture about gardening with native and exotic plants. *Free*

“Pardons of Innocence: The Wilmington Ten”

Thursday, January 21

See the documentary that recounts the turbulent history surrounding the troubled desegregation of the New Hanover County Public School System in North Carolina during the late 1960s through 1971, and the violence that led to the false prosecution and convictions of eight black male students, a white female community organizer, and fiery civil rights activist, Rev. Benjamin Chavis, for protesting racial injustice. *Free*

WinterFeast: Oysters, Brews, and Comfort Foods

Friday, January 29

Dive into a table full of hot, steamy, succulent oysters, sample classic winter favorites like chowder, shrimp and grits, BBQ, and jambalaya prepared by your favorite local chefs, and wash it all down with delicious brews while enjoying a night out with friends and neighbors. *Ticketed*

Free Day

Saturday, February 6

Free tours of the Palace and historic buildings (limited to first floors), games, and crafts. Sponsored by the Bate Foundation, this year’s Free Day celebrates the diverse cultures found in New Bern and the surrounding region. A multi-cultural celebration with dancing, music, and much more will be held in the North Carolina History Center. *Free*

Valentines Date Night

Saturday, February 13

Join us for chocolates and drinks before settling in for a romantic film to celebrate Valentine’s Day! *Ticketed*

Garden Lecture Series: Gardening Challenges and Recipes

Saturday, March 12

Food writer, columnist, and author of *Tomatoes* and *Grains* Miriam Rubin will speak during this monthly lecture series sponsored by the Bate Foundation. A book signing will follow. *Free*

Easter Egg Hunt on the South Lawn

Saturday, March 26

Newly recreated Easter Egg Hunt with multiple time slots available, games, candy, and fun! The Easter Bunny will also be here for pictures. Preregistration is required. *Ticketed*

For a complete list of 2016 events — including films, lectures, and behind-the-scenes tours of the conservation lab, gardens, and costume shop — visit tryonpalace.org/calendar.

Garden Lover's Weekend*Friday, April 8-Sunday, April 10*

Explore the beauty of tulips and spring blooms for free. Garden Lover's Weekend is held in conjunction with the Spring Historic Homes & Gardens Tour, which is sponsored by the New Bern Historical Society and the New Bern Preservation Foundation. Want some plants to take home? Be sure to attend our Heritage Plant Sale that same weekend. *Free*

Earth Day in the Gardens*Friday, April 22*

Reconnect with nature in the Palace gardens on Earth Day. Learn about the plants, animals, and all things that make up this beautiful planet and how we can protect it. *Ticketed*

Tryon Palace Spring Tea*Saturday, April 23*

Enjoy a tea with your mother on the Palace's South Lawn as you take in the beautiful sights of the gardens. Preregistration is required. *Ticketed*

**Living History Weekend***Saturday, June 4-Sunday, June 5*

The Palace grounds will be filled with costumed interpreters, games, demonstrations, and more. Join us to take a trip back in time and try your hand at life in the 18th century. *Ticketed*

Fife and Drum Summer Camp*Monday, June 20-Friday, June 24*

Have you ever wanted to learn about our Fife and Drum Corps and see what it takes to be a member? Join our day camp and become a member of the Corps! Camp will be held 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and preregistration is required. *Ticketed*

A Glorious Fourth*Monday, July 4*

Enjoy the anniversary of the birth of America at Tryon Palace with historical interpreters, games and crafts for all ages, exhibitions, and a live reading of the Declaration of Independence on the Palace steps. This free event also includes a performance by the Fife and Drum Corps and free access to the Palace gardens. *Free*

Coming to the Duffy Gallery 2016 Exhibit Schedule

**Pins & Needles: A Twin Rivers Quilters Guild Exhibition***January 23-February 21*

This free exhibit will feature a selection of quilts produced by the Twin Rivers Quilters Guild, including several works produced for charity. The exhibit will also include "Jewel of the Sea," the guild's group project that will be raffled off after the exhibit.

Annual K-12 Student Art Show*March 2-27*

Experience the talents of art students from area schools at the annual K-12 Student Art Show, presented by the Craven Arts Council and Gallery, and held in the North Carolina History Center's Duffy Exhibition Gallery.

**Gardens of North Carolina***April 9-July 4*

This spring, come see an exhibit on the gardens and landscapes of North Carolina! From kitchen gardens to farms and flower beds to early landscaping, North Carolina is home to many iconic landscapes. Visitors will learn about the history of gardening, horticulture and landscape architecture in this exciting new exhibit.



Your Membership Plants a Seed for the Future

Families love the gardens at Tryon Palace. Whether they are shopping for heritage plants, strolling through the Kitchen Garden, or taking a selfie among the tulips and mums, you have probably seen a family enjoying the beauty of Tryon Palace's gardens. Some families visit the gardens once or twice a year, but true garden lovers join our family by becoming members of the Tryon Palace Foundation.

Did you know all Tryon Palace Foundation members are able to enjoy the gardens for free? That's just one of the many perks of supporting North Carolina's first state capitol. Members also enjoy free admission to the Palace, historic homes, and the North Carolina History Center, which is home to the Pepsi Family Center, an interactive exhibit that excites imaginations of the young and the young at heart. Members also receive free or discounted admission to numerous special events throughout the year, including behind-the-scenes tours, lunch-and-learn programs, movies, children's programs, and more.

By joining the Tryon Palace Foundation, members are planting a seed for Tryon Palace's future. Contact us today to learn how your membership can help build a legacy of education, preservation, and excitement for North Carolina's first permanent capitol.



For more information about becoming a member of the Tryon Palace Foundation, call 1-800-767-1560 or visit www.tryonpalacefoundation.org.