

# *Burdett's Ordinary Historical Report, Block 17 Building 2C Lot 58*

*Originally entitled: "Burdett's Ordinary Block 17-2 Colonial Lot 58 West"*

Mary A. Stephenson

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## *BURDETT'S ORDINARY*

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#### **LOCATION:**

Colonial Lot 58 is located on the north side of Duke of Gloucester street near the Capitol. On early nineteenth century plats of Williamsburg, it is marked "Meade" and "58".

#### **IN SUMMARY:**

On May 16, 1713, trustees of Williamsburg granted two lots on the north side of Duke of Gloucester Street to Francis Sharp, with the stipulation that a house or houses must be erected on the two lots, 57 and 58, within twenty-four months or the lots would revert to the city. Sharp, evidently, did not build as the trustees again granted these lots to Sharp in 1717 with the same understanding. Sharp built on the lots. He may have used both lots himself. When he died in 1739 he refers to the "lot of Land House and Appurtenances ... that Mr. Burdet now liveth upon Adjoining to the Capitall Square..." Burdett, an ordinary keeper, leased the building on Lot 58 from Sharp (until his death); still occupied it when Thomas Pattison owned it; and continued there until his death (1746), it is thought. Pattison, an ordinary keeper, died in 1742. In his inventory was listed "The sign of Edinburgh Castle with the irons etc." In Burdett's inventory (1746) was listed "The remains of an old Sign with the Iron Work." It is believed that Burdett bought many items at Pattison's sale and among them was "The sign of Edinburgh Castle with the irons etc." This assumption seems reasonable as in 1755 Robert Lyon, tavern keeper and wig maker, advertised in the *Virginia Gazette* that he "kept tavern at the Sign of the Edinburgh Castle, near the Capitol." Lyon had "a dwelling and shop with good pasturage and stablage for horses." In 1757 Benjamin Waller who had acquired the property via Pattison's heirs in 1754, conveyed it to John Pearson Webb, the consideration named being two hundred and seventy five pounds current money: "being the Messuage House and Lot late in the Tenure and Occupation of John Burdett with the Appurtenances except thirty five feet Square laid off out of the East end of the said Lot which now belong to Nathaniel Walthoe." Following Webb's death in 1764, the property fell to the widow, Mrs. Frances Webb. By 1774 John Webb was the owner. He advertised his property in Williamsburg thus: " For SALE, THAT valuable and well situated Lot in Williamsburg where the Coffeehouse is now kept;" It was, evidently being called "the Coffeehouse" in 1769 as owners of property across the street (Lot 27) described their location as "at the brick house opposite the coffee house." In 1767 Richard Charlton, tavern keeper and wig maker, advertised "THE COFFEE-HOUSE IN THIS CITY BEING now opened by the subscriber as a Tavern he hereby acquaints all Gentlemen travellers... that they will meet with the best entertainment and other accommodations..." It is possible that Charlton was referring to the English Coffee House once in operation at Lots 25 and 26 and at this date inactive; but it seems more probable that he was located on Lot 58 from other descriptions, (above quoted and to follow). In 1772 Mary Dickinson,

milliner, announced her location in the city thus: "she had removed to the Store above the Coffeehouse, near the Capitol" and "next Door above the Coffee House." In 1777 Webb advertised for sale "My house and lot in *Williamsburg*, at present the COFFEE HOUSE." The Frenchman's Map of Williamsburg (1782) shows a large rectangular building facing south on the lot. A gap occurs in the title until 1782 when David Meade was the owner until 1809 when the western part of Lot 58 was conveyed to Robert Anderson. Sometime between 1809 and 1817 James Thomson was owner. He was followed by Joseph Hague who conveyed in 1817 to David Chalmers. Chalmers insured his property in 1817 and 1822 stating that it was located "between George Morrison on the east and Robert Anderson west, dwelling and store 30 feet by 27 feet." In 1830 George Morrison purchased the property from Chalmers. During Morrison's ownership it was insured four times stating that it was a dwelling and store and giving the names of renters. Chalmers and Morrison were retail merchants and the renters were also merchants. In 1853 Robert Blassingham became the owner via Morrison's heirs. He, too, was a merchant, and insured his dwelling and store as had other owners. In 1872 the property came into the ownership of John C. Timberlake until his death in 1888. His widow held the larger part until 1896. In 1893 Mrs. Timberlake conveyed the smaller part toward the north to S. E. S. Baker, who sold to E. W. Maynard in 1900. Chester Evans owned it in 1916 who conveyed to Peninsula Realty Corporation. In 1921 Robert E. Donegan became owner. The part of the lot facing upon Duke of Gloucester Street was conveyed by Mrs. Timberlake in 1896 to Eudoxie Donegan and R. E. Donegan. In 1928 Donegan and other heirs conveyed the entire lot to W. A. R. Goodwin, representing the interests of Williamsburg Restoration.

## BURDETT'S ORDINARY

Lot 58 west Date	OWNED BY	Date	OCCUPIED BY	PROFESSION
1717	FRANCIS SHARPE from Trustees (must build within 24 months) Owned until his death in 1740.	1739	John Burdett	ordinary keeper ordinary
1740	FRANCIS SHARP, Jr. by father's will			
1742 ca.	THOMAS PATTISON by Jacob Sharp, exor. of father's will	1746	John Burdett Burdett died	ordinary keeper
		1753	Robert Lyon ?	tavern-keeper
1754	BENJ. WALLER via Pattison	1755	Robert Lyon "at sign of Edinburgh Castle"	tavern-keeper & wigmaker
1757	JOHN P WEBB via Waller	1757	"late in the tenure and occupation of John Burdett"	
1764	FRANCES WEBB, widow, leased to pay off remainder of indebtedness.	1764 1767	James Hunter, Richard Charlton ?	merchant tavern-keeper
1774	JOHN WEBB "Coffee House"			
	JOHN WEBB "Coffee House"			
1782	DAVID MEADE	1802	J. W. Dixon ?	
1809	ROBT. ANDERSON			
18- ?	JAMES THOMSON			
18- ?	JOSEPH HAGUE	1815		merchant
1817	DAVID CHALMERS via Hague	1817		merchant
1830	GEORGE MORRISON via Chalmers	1834	William Lee	merchant
		1839	Peter H. A. Bellett	merchant
		1846	John M. King	merchant
1853	ROBT. BLASSINGHAM			merchant
1872	JOHN C. TIMBERLAKE			
	[further title, found in body of history]			



*BURDETT'S ORDINARY*  
*Block 17-2 Colonial Lot 58 (west)*

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## LOCATION:

Colonial Lot 58 is located on the north side of Duke of Gloucester Street near the Capitol. On Tyler's adaptation of late eighteenth and nineteenth century plats of the city of Williamsburg the lot is designated as "Meade" and also "58". See: map on opposite page.

## HISTORY:

On May 16, 1713 Trustees for building the City of Williamsburg granted two lots of land on the north side of Duke of Gloucester Street to Francis Sharp. <sup>1</sup>

[May 16, 1713]

THIS INDENTURE made y<sup>e</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> day of May in y<sup>e</sup> twelfth Year of y<sup>e</sup> reign of y<sup>e</sup> Sovereign Lady Ann by y<sup>e</sup> grace of God of Great Brittain, France, & Ireland Queen defend<sup>r</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> faith &c And in y<sup>e</sup> Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred & Thirteen BETWEEN y<sup>e</sup> Feoffees or Trustees for y<sup>e</sup> Land appropriated for y<sup>e</sup> Building & Erecting y<sup>e</sup> City of Williamsburgh of y<sup>e</sup> One part & Francis Sharpe of y<sup>e</sup> County of York of y<sup>e</sup> Other part WITNESSETH that whereas y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Francis Sharpe by One Lease to him y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Feoffees or Trustees bearing date y<sup>e</sup> day before y<sup>e</sup> date of these Presents is in [blur] & peaceable possession of y<sup>e</sup> premisses hereon hereafter granted,... but more Especially for & in consideration of Thirty Shillings of good & lawfull money of England to them in hand paid at & before y<sup>e</sup> Ensealing & delivery of these Presents... HAVE granted, bargained, Sold, remised, released & confirmed, & by these Presents for themselves, their heirs & Success<sup>rs</sup> ... do grant, bargain... unto y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Francis Sharpe Two certain Lotts of Ground lying on y<sup>e</sup> North side of y<sup>e</sup> Duke of Gloucester Street in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> City of Williamsburgh designed in y<sup>e</sup> Plott of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> City by these figures 57 & 58 with all Woods thereon growing or being together with all Profits, Commodities, Emoluments & Advantages whatsoever to y<sup>e</sup> Same belonging or in any wise appertaining TO HAVE & TO HOLD y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> granted Premisses & Every part thereof with y<sup>e</sup> Appertenances unto y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Francis Sharpe & to his heirs for Ever,... under y<sup>e</sup> limitations & reservations hereafter mentioned: That is to say that if y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Francis Sharpe his heirs & Assigns shall not in y<sup>e</sup> Space of Twenty four months next Ensuing y<sup>e</sup> date of these Presents begin to build & finish upon Each Lott of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> granted Premisses One good dwelling house or houses of Such dimensions & to be placed in such manner as by One Act of Assembly made at y<sup>e</sup> Capitol y<sup>e</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> day of October 1705 intituled an Act continuing y<sup>e</sup> Act directing y<sup>e</sup> building y<sup>e</sup> Capitol & City of W<sup>ms</sup> burgh &c... Then it shall & may be law-full to & for y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Feoffees or Trustees & their success<sup>rs</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Feoffees or Trustees for y<sup>e</sup> Land appropriated for y<sup>e</sup> building and Erecting y<sup>e</sup> City of W<sup>ms</sup> burgh for y<sup>e</sup> time being into y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> granted Premisses & Every part thereof with y<sup>e</sup> Appurtenances to Enter & y<sup>e</sup> Same to have again as of their former Estate... In Witness whereof Jn<sup>o</sup> Clayton & W<sup>m</sup> Robertson Gentt Two of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Feoffees or Trustees have hereunto sett their hand & seals y<sup>e</sup> day & Year above written

John Clayton Seal

Wil Robertson Seal

Signed, Sealed & Delivered in y<sup>e</sup> Presence of

Mich<sup>l</sup> Archer

C Jackson

May 16<sup>th</sup> 1713 Then received of Francis

Sharpe y<sup>e</sup> Sum of Thirty Shillings.....

pr Wil Robertson

...

At a Court held for York County 21 Sept<sup>r</sup> 1713 W<sup>m</sup> Robertson Gentt One of y<sup>e</sup> Feoffees or Trustees for y<sup>e</sup> Land appropriated for y<sup>e</sup> building & erecting y<sup>e</sup> City of W<sup>ms</sup> burgh Presented & acknowledged y<sup>e</sup> within Deed of Release for Two Lotts of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Land to Francis Sharpe & on his mocon they are Admitted to Record Test Phi: Lightfoot CI Cur Truly Recorded

Test Phi: Lightfoot CI Cur.

Evidently, Sharpe failed to comply with the building clause in the deed--that a house be erected on each lot within 24 months--for the lots reverted to the trustees. The same lots were again conveyed to Sharpe in 1717:

[May 2, 1717]

[Trustees of the City of Williamsburg

to

Francis Sharp of York County

Consideration: 30 shillings money of Virginia]

... Two certain Lotts of Ground in the City of W<sup>ms</sup> burgh designed in y<sup>e</sup> Platt of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> City of the figures 57 and 58 with all Woods thereon growing or being... [must build within 24 months upon each lot one good dwelling house or houses according to Act of Assembly of October 23, 1705 or trustees will enter same as of their former Estate]

John Clayton (Seal)

Wil Robertson (Seal)

1[Recorded

York County Court

May 20, 1717]

Sharp built on the lots within the prescribed time for the property was still in his ownership at the time of his death (1740).

In 1718 Sharp was granted a license to keep an ordinary in Williamsburg. 2It is believed that he kept an ordinary in his house on Lot 57 (See: Research Report on The Red Lion, Block 17, Lot 57). What use Sharp made of his house on Lot 58 at first is not known. He may have leased it, or possibly kept an ordinary in one house and occupied the other with his family before his removal to Surry County where he died. Sometime prior to Sharp's death, the house on Lot 58 was leased to John Burdett. (Account to follow chronologically)

Sharp made his will on August 14, 1739 leaving the house and lot to his son, Francis Sharp, Jr., with the exception of a strip to be laid off of the eastern end of the lot. 3Sharp's will follows:

[August 14, 1739]

In the Name of God Amen I Francis Sharp of the parish of Lawnes Creek in the County of Surry...I Give devise and bequeath in Manner and form following Imprimis, I give and devise to my son ffrancis Sharp the Lot of Land House and Appurtenances in the City of Williamsburg that Mr: Burdet now liveth upon Adjoining to the Capitall Square (Excepting thirty five feet to be laid off out of the East end of y<sup>e</sup> said Lot)... [and also land in Isle of Wight County] to my said Son his Heirs and Assigns for ever... I give unto my said Son William Thirty five feet out of the East End of Y<sup>e</sup> Lot given to my Son Francis whereon M<sup>r</sup> Burdet in Williamsburg now lives and also what timber he shall want towards the building and Repairing upon the said Lot...to him his Heirs and Assigns for ever... 1

In the will above, "Mr. Burdet" is mentioned as living on Sharp's property. John Burdett (the usual spelling) was a tavern keeper. Little is known about Burdett, an ordinary keeper, except that he lived on the property some years and became involved in a suit of encroachment. (Details will follow in the report).

Sharp's son, Jacob Sharp, was named sole executor of the will. No deed conveying Lot 58 has been found in the York County Records; but reference was made to its sale in a deed concerning the adjoining lot to the west, Lot 57. According to this deed, Jacob Sharp, executor of the will, sold Lot 58 to Thomas Pattison prior to 1742:

[October 1, 1742]

[John Sharp - Planter of Surry County

to

Henry Wetherburn, Ordinary Keeper

Consideration: 80 pounds current money of Virginia]

...All that messuage, tenement Lott and half acre of land... lying & being upon the Duke of Gloucester Street... bounded on the East by the Lott lately purchased by one Thomas Pattison of Jacob Sharp, Brother of the said John Sharp, on the South by the said Duke of Gloucester Street...now in the tenure and Occupation of one Thomas Penman, and marked in the plan of the said City...with the Number 57 and all houses... 1

John Burdett, who occupied the house on Lot 58 at the time Francis Sharp wrote his will, still occupied it when Pattison purchased it and continued there until his death in 1746. (See: history to follow).

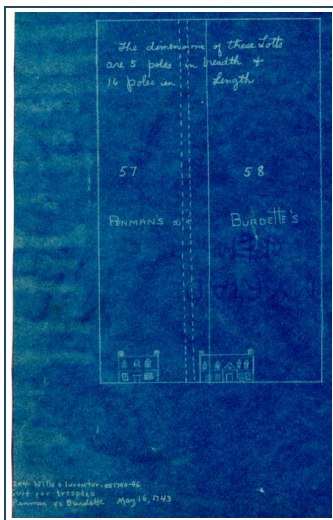
In 1743 Burdett was defendant in a suit pertaining to his boundary line. Seth Seekright, lessee of Thomas Penman, (who had occupied Lot 57 in 1742), sued Burdett for trespass:

[May 16, 1743]

[Seth Seekright - Plaintiff  
Lessee of Thomas Penman  
vs  
John Burdett - Defendant]

In the Ejectione Firma bro<sup>t</sup> by Seth Seekright Lessee of Tho<sup>s</sup> Penman against John Burdett; The s<sup>d</sup> Defend<sup>t</sup> by Bedford Davenport his Atty came into Court & pleads the General Issue, Confesseth Lease Entry & Ouster &c And its orderd that the Surveyor of the City of W<sup>ms</sup> burgh [blurred] on Monday next if fair, if not, the next, fair day, survey & lay out the Lott of Land in dispute, as each party will have it; and that he refuse [sic] a Certificate of the Survey thereof and plott to the next Court And it's further order'd that the sherif attend the s<sup>d</sup> Surveyor to remove force if any shall be offered. <sup>2</sup>

In the Ejectione Firma between Seth Seekright Lessee of Thomas Penman, Plt and John Burdett Defend<sup>t</sup>; This day came the parties afores<sup>d</sup> by their attornies and waived the Tryal by Jury and submitted the Matter to the Opinion of the Court which is that the black line in the Surveyors Plott returnd in this Cause is the bounds of the Plts Land in dispute. And that the Pl<sup>t</sup> hath sustain'd one shilling damage by Occasion of the Trespass and Ejectment afores<sup>d</sup>. And it's Consider'd by the Court that the Plt recover against the Def<sup>d</sup> his Term yet to come of and in one Messuage one Tenement and one Lott or half Acre of Land with Appurts Situate lying and being on Duke of Gloster Street in the City of W<sup>ms</sup> burgh as in the deed mention'd--together with his damages afores<sup>d</sup> And also his Costs by him about his suit in this behalf expended. And the s<sup>d</sup> Defend<sup>t</sup> in Mercy &c.



And it's order'd that his Majesty's Writ of Habere fac<sup>s</sup> possessioness [sic] issue to put the Pl<sup>t</sup> in possession of the premes. And it's order'd that the Surveyors Plott & Certificate ret<sup>d</sup> in this Cause be recorded, and they are recorded as foll<sup>s</sup>:

[Drawings of lots 57 and 58 with houses thereon]

[Surveyors Note:]

In obedience to an Order of York County Court dated the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 1743 I have Survey'd the Lott in dispute between Seth Seekright Lessee of Tho<sup>s</sup> Penman Pl<sup>t</sup> and John Burdett Defend<sup>t</sup> as each party directed that is to say The Lott No 57 claim'd by the Pl<sup>t</sup> and the Lott 58 claim'd by the Defend<sup>t</sup> according to the above plan; by w<sup>ch</sup> it appears that the Body of the Defend<sup>t</sup>'s house stands about 8 feet on the plts Lott. The prickt line A shews the bounds of Burdetts Lott as held by Mr. Kerr taking in all 14 feet from Penmans Lott: and the prickt line B taking about 4 feet more, was lately a line of pales of Burdettes.

Jos Davenport - Survey<sup>r</sup> City W<sup>ms</sup> g. <sup>1</sup>

In the Action of Trespass between Tho<sup>s</sup> Penman Pl<sup>t</sup> and John Burdett Defend<sup>t</sup>, This day came the parties afores<sup>d</sup> by their Attornies and thereupon came a Jury to wit Andrew Anderson, Edw<sup>d</sup> Baptist, John Goodwin, Jno Wynn, Edm<sup>d</sup> Dobson, Edm<sup>d</sup> Curtis, W<sup>m</sup> Fuller, Edward Peters, Edward Potter, James Goodwin, George Holloway & Hugh Orr, good & lawfull Men who were elected, tryd & duly Sworn to say the Truth of the Matter in Issue and upon their Oaths they say that the Defend<sup>t</sup> is Guilty of the Trespass in the declaration mention'd and they assess the damage of the Pl<sup>t</sup> by Occasion thereof to five pounds.

Therefore it's consider'd by the Court that the Pl<sup>t</sup> recover against the s<sup>d</sup> Defend<sup>t</sup> his damage afores<sup>d</sup> by the Jurors

aforesaid in form afores<sup>d</sup> Assess'd And also his Costs by him about his Suit in this behalf expended And the said defendt in Mercy &c. <sup>2</sup>

A plat of encroachment is on opposite page as copied from the York County Records.

Burdett was still in occupation of Pattison's property when the latter made his will. The most important clause which relates to Lot 58 reads:

[November 17, 1742]

[Thomas Pattison - Ordinary Keeper Will of:]

I also give unto my said wife [Anne Coke Pattison] my houses and lot in the city of Williamsburg now in the occupation of John Burdett during her natural life and after her decease I give and devise the same to my beloved son Thomas Pattison of the Kingdom of Great Britain who was born about four miles from the city of Durham and to his heirs and assigns forever. <sup>1</sup>

Pattison had quite an extensive establishment. From a survey of his inventory we can see that he had 50 pairs of knives and forks, 23 spoons, 31 drinking glasses, 44 chairs, 12 table cloths, 13 beds, 2 backgammon tables, a quantity of liquors and decanters, punch ladles and sillibub pots, with a creditable amount of furniture, pictures, prints and window curtains. His inventory shows also an item: "The Sign of Edinburgh Castle with the irons &c." The total appraisement amounted to £412.5.4 ½: <sup>2</sup>

[February 21, 1742/3]

[Pattison, Thomas - Inventory and Appraisment of Williamsburg, Va. - Ordinary Keeper.]

	£
4 pewter water plates 5/ 7 doz <sup>n</sup> & 7 pewter plates at 1/	5/11/ 0
21 pewter dishes 9 abt 60 w <sup>t</sup> a 14 <sup>d</sup>	3/10/ 0
2 pewter Salvers, 1 pewter Cullender, Do. Bedpan, 1 Tin funnell	0/ 9/ 0
1 Copper Tea Kettle, 1 Copper Tea Kitchen, 1 Copper Chocolate pot, 1 old Copper stew pan, 1 Copper Dutch oven, & 1 large copper Kettle	7/ 0/ 0
2 Bell Metal skillets, 2 Bell metal Mortars, 2 Iron pestles 1 Brass Mortar & 1 Iron pestle	4/ 0/ 0
1 small brass Kettle, 1 Brass pastry pan, 1 brass flower box, 1 Tin fish Kettle, 1 Copper still, & head Tub, & worm & 1 Brass warming pan	4/ 7/ 0
5 Iron pots 2 iron pot hooks	3/ 0/ 0
3 p <sup>r</sup> . Tongs, 1 Shovel, 1 poker, 1 loggerhead, 1 Coffee roaster 2 frying pans, 1 Grid Iron, 1 p <sup>r</sup> . of large racks, 2 spits, 3 pot racks, and one flesh fork all Iron	3/ 0/ 0
1 old pewter Still-head, 3 flat Irons, 10 brass Candle-sticks 3 Iron Snuffers, 30 Tin patty pans, 1 Tin Coffee pot	2/10/ 0
1 China Dish, 9 China plates, 4 Delph Dishes, 15 Delph plates 3 earthern Wash Basons	1/15/ 0
6 Earthern Milk pans, 3 Butter Dishes and 1 pipkin	0/ 6/ 0
2 Tables, 5 pales, Several Trays and other Wooden Lumber	0/10/ 0
2 Spades, 3 Axes, 1 hoe, 1 Garden rake	0/ 5/ 0
6 Ivory handled Knives & 6 D <sup>o</sup> . forks, 6 D <sup>o</sup> older	1/ 0/ 0
39 black handled and Buck handled Knives and forks	0/12/ 0
mops, house brushes, Brooms, and 2 sifters	0/ 6/ 0
1 Side Saddle with blue Cloth Cover	1/11/ 0
2 horses 1 Chair & harness for 2 horses	35/ 0/ 0
4 Cows £6 6 Butter pots 10s. 6 Wine pipes & 2 Whls 20/	7/12/ 0
1 large leaf for a Table 10s., 8 gross empty bottles 26s.	10/18/ 0
20 bottles Cordial Drams containg ab <sup>t</sup> 5 Gall <sup>s</sup> a 10/ [List of molasses, vinegar etc.]	10/ 0/ 0
100 Gallons of rum at 3/6 £17.10.- pipe of Madera Wine £20	37/10/ 0

	£151/ 1/ -
...	
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, Blanket, Quilt, Field Bedstead & Curtains	6/10/ 0
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, Rug, Quilt, Bedstead, Curtains, Blankets	10/ 0/ 0
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, Blanket, Rug, Counterpain, Bedstead and Curtains	6/ 0/ 0
1 Table, & 3 chairs, & 2 window Curtains	0/10/ 0
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, Pillow, 1 p <sup>r</sup> . Sheets, 2 Blankets, 1 Counterpain, Curtains, Bedstead, &c	8/ 0/ 0
1 Do. with furniture	7/10/ 0
1 Table, 1 Dressing Glass, 4 Chairs, 3 Window Curtains	2/10/ 0
1 large oval Table, black walnut	2/ 5/ 0
1 Small Do. 1 Press bed Case 6/ 1 Skreen 15/, 12 Leather Chairs 60/	5/ 0/ 0
1 p <sup>r</sup> . hand Irons & Tongs 20/, 2 <i>Callico Window Curtains</i> & Vallens & Iron Rods.	1/15/ 0
7 large framed prints 40/, 2 Backgammon Tables, Men, boxes, &c 40/	4/ 0/ 0
1 small black walnut table, 12 leather chairs	6/15/ 0
1 Black Walnut Desk 85, 1 large Oval Table 25/	6/ 5/ 0
1 large looking glass, 1 Small Do. 15/ with Sconces, & 1 Chimney Glass	8/ 0/ 0
10 framed prints 50/, 2 <i>callico window curtains</i> , Vallens & Iron rods	2/15/ 0
2 p <sup>r</sup> . of hand Irons, fire Shovel, & Tongs.	2/15/ 0
1 Cloaths press 20/, 1 Desk 40/, 1 small black Walnut Table 18/	3/18/ 0
3 oval and 2 Square Tables 37/, 12 Leather Chairs 30/	3/ 7/ 0
1 looking Glass 20/, 1 corner Cupboard 20/, 12 pictures 30/	3/10/0
3 window Curtains 15/ & rods 10/, 7 china Bowls	4/0/0
12 Earthern bowls 15/, 10 Salt Sellers 6/, 5 Vinegar Cruits	1/4/17
1 Coffee Mill 6/, 5 q <sup>t</sup> . Decanters, 3 pts Do. 1 half pint	1/7/0
Sullibub pot, 1 q <sup>t</sup> . Dicanter, 1 q <sup>t</sup> . Mugg crakt glass	0/7/0
1 Gallon pot, 1 pottle Do. 1 q <sup>t</sup> . Do., 2 half pints, 3 jill pots 1 Tin funnel, 1 pewter Do.	1/5/0
31 Drinking glasses	0/15/6
1 old Table, Jugg 2 hammers, 1 p <sup>r</sup> . pinchus, 1 bottle brush, 1 punch ladle, 2 old Sclates and pail	0/8/6
3 Qt. Earthern Muggs, 1 p <sup>t</sup> . Do. and 1 pottle jugg	0/3/9
40 lbs. pot Sugar 25/, 6 Loaves of double refined Sugar 42/	3/7/0
2 p <sup>r</sup> . Money Scales & weights, & 2 Cloaths brushes	0/6/0
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, Counterpain, Bedstead, etc.	2/10/0
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, 1 Blanket and Counterpane, Bedstead, etc.	5/0/0
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, 1 Blanket, Counterpane, Bedstead, etc.	4/0/0
1 Feather Bed, 1 pr. sheets, counterpane, bedstead, etc.	5/0/0
1 small Square Table, 5 Chairs, 2 Window Curtains, & 15 Earthern Chamber pots	1/10/0
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, 1 Blanket, 1 Rug, Counterpane, Bedstead etc.	5/0/0
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, pr. Sheets, Quilt, Counterpane, Bedstead etc.	5/0/0
1 Feather Bed, Bolster, Blanket, Rug, Counterpane, Bedstead etc.	5/0/0
17 pillows and Pillow bears 4/	3/8/0
	£291/17/10
1 Small Table, 5 Chairs, & 2 window Curtains	0/15/0
7 fine sheets £7, 2 p <sup>r</sup> . sheets 50/, 3 p <sup>r</sup> . Do. 45	11/15/0
1 looking Glass, & 1 Corner Cupboard, 4 pictures	1/1/6



8	Leather Chairs, 2 Tables, 1 p <sup>r</sup> . Bellows, & 1 p <sup>r</sup> . And Irons	4/2/0
1	parcel of China Cups, Saucers, Slop bowl, & 2 window Curtains	1/4/0
1	Lamp, 1 Lanthorn & 2 small Bells	0/12/0
	The Sign of Edinburgh Castle with the Irons &c.	2/0/0
1	Feather Bed, Bolster, 1 p <sup>r</sup> . sheets, 1 Blanket, rug, Bedstead	4/0/0
8	Diaper Table Cloths	2/0/0
1	large Damask Table Cloath, & 12 Damask Napkins	5/0/0
3	Coarse Table Cloaths, 8 Towels	0/5/0
1	Chest of Drawers, & a corner Cupboard, 1 Trunk and Table	2/13/0
	A parcel of books 50/, a parcel of Table Cloaths, Napkins, & Towels £5	7/10/0
	A parcel of Silver Consisting of 1 punch Ladel, 1 Strainer, 11 Tablespoons, 12 Teaspoons, 1 p <sup>r</sup> . Tea Tongs, & in all 29 oz.	7/5/0
	[List of Slaves. 6]	110/5/0
		£472/5/4 1/2

[Recorded March 21, 1742 <sup>/3</sup> ]

Apparently, John Burdett continued to live here until his death in 1746. Prior to his death he offered a billiard table and other equipment for sale:

[January 23, 1745/46]

A Very Good *English* -made Billiard Table, cover'd with green Cloath; the Frame strong, true, and well-season'd, with Balls; and Masts for *French* Billiards: Also Port and King, with Sticks of Lignum Vitae tipt with Ivory, and Balls, for *English* Billiards. Enquire of Mr. *John Burdett*, in *Williamsburg*. <sup>1</sup>

In his will--written August 30, 1745--Burdett terms himself "Innholder". He devises to his wife, Mary, a slave; to his daughter, Christiana, a slave; and to his daughter Mary Virstilly forty pounds sterling. The rest and residue of his estate he bequeathed to his wife, and daughter, Christiana:

[August 30, 1745]

[Will of John Burdett:]

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN I John Burdett of the City of Williamsburgh Innholder being of perfect Mind and Memory do make this my last Will and Testament in manner following hereby revoking all other and former Wills by me made. Imprimis I recommend my Soul to Almighty God hoping through the Merits of Jesus Christ to enjoy eternal Happiness. ITEM I Give unto my well beloved Wife Mary my Negro Man Slave named Torrington & my Negro Woman Slave Named Jenny with her future Increase to her and her Heirs forever. And It is further my Will and desire that these slaves be Valued or Sold and that my Wife shall have and receive out of my Estate Two hundred Pounds Sterling Including the said Negros or value of them in the same.

ITEM I Give and bequeath to my Daughter Christiana my Negro Man Slave named Shropshire and Negro Woman Slave named Bell with her Child and Increase and it is further my Will and desire that these Slaves be Valued or Sold And that my said Daughter shall have and receive out of my Estate Three hundred Pounds Sterling Including the said Negros or value of them in the same to her and her Heirs.

ITEM I Give unto my Daughter Mary Virstilly forty Pounds Sterling to her and her Heirs.

ITEM in case my Estate after Debts paid shall be sufficient to pay all the Legacies before given over and above the sum of thirty eight Pounds two shillings and two Pence Currency lodged by me in the hands of M<sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Walthoe and a Debt of forty two Pounds Sterling due to me from M<sup>r</sup> Richard Jasper Then and in that case I further give the said last mention'd two Sums to my said Daughter Christiana and her Heirs But in case my Estate should not be of that Value besides the said two last mention'd Sums in that case it is my Will and desire that the said two last mention'd Sums or somuch thereof as shall be wanting be apply'd towards the Paiment of the Legacys before given And after all my Debts and the Legacies aforesaid are paid I give and bequeath all the rest and residue of my Estate whatever equally to be divided between my said Wife Mary and my said Daughter Christiana to them and their Heirs forever.

AND LASTLY I do hereby Nominate and Appoint my friends M<sup>r</sup> William Prentis and M<sup>r</sup> Nathaniel Walthoe of the City of



Williamsburgh

Executors of this my last Will and Testament IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this thirtieth Day of August One thousand seven hundred and forty five.

John Burdett (LS)

Sign'd Seal'd Published &

Declared by the said John Burdett to be his last Will

& Testament in Presence of

Nath<sup>l</sup> Walthoe

William Nimmo

Robert Crichton

At a Court held for York County the 18<sup>th</sup> Day of August 1746.

[Nathaniel Walthoe declined to act as one of the executors and the other is out of the Colony] On the motion of Christiana Burdett... Certificate was granted her for obtaining Letters of Administration on the Estate of the said Decedent with his Will annexed She the said Christiana together with W<sup>m</sup> Nimmo and Ebenezer Campbell her securities having enter'd into and Acknowledg'd Bond in the Penalty of fifteen hundred Pounds for her due Admon of the said Estate and Performance of the Will.

Teste

Tho<sup>s</sup> Everard Cl: Cur: 1

The writer is inclined to think that Christiana Burdett married Ebenezer Campbell and was the famous "Mrs. Christiana Campbell" who operated a coffee house in Williamsburgh for some years. Christiana Burdett qualified as administratrix of her father's estate and Ebenezer Campbell and William Nimmo were her securities.

Since Burdett was the *late occupant* mentioned in a deed of 1757 for Lot 58: "being the messuage house and lot late in the tenure and occupation of John Burdett" -, it seems reasonable to conclude that at his death he was still at Lot 58. Also, it would seem to follow that the advertisement and inventory of his estate referred to the household goods used at Lot 58. Both, therefore, are included in the body of the report:

[August 27, 1746]

**[Inventory and appraisement of the estate of John Burdett]**

1 p <sup>r</sup> stilyards 7/6 1 Field Bedstead 12	£0/19/ 6
1 Garden Pott 1/ 2 Wooden Benches 1/	0/ 2/ 0
1 Brass Kettle 50/ 6 Delf Sloop Plates 2/	2/12/ 0
15 flatt Delf Plates 3/ 5 Dishes 4/	0/ 7/ 0
3 Tea Potts 1/6 4 Baking Pans 1/ 5 small Bowls 1/6	0/ 4/ 0
A Parcel Crackt Earthern Ware	0/ 1/ 0
9 China Bowls sorted	2/ 0/ 0
4 Crackt D <sup>o</sup> 7/6 12 Breakfast Cups 6/	0/13/ 6
6 China Plates 12/ 2 butter Basons 2/	0/14/ 0
3 dozen Wine Glasses 18/ 2 Beer Glasses 1/6	0/19/ 6
5 Glass Rummors 2/6 11 Decanters sorted 25/	1/ 7/ 6
2 Large Crackt China Bowls 5/ 3 Earthern D <sup>o</sup> 3/9	0/ 8/ 9
6 Earthern Plates 1/6 6 salts & 1 Mustard Pot 2/6	0/ 4/ 0
2 Cruits and 1 Tumbler	0/ 1/ 6
2 Tea boards & 1 bottle Stand	0/10/ 0
4 p <sup>r</sup> brass Candlesticks & 2 p <sup>r</sup> snuffers	0/14/ 0
13 China Coffee Cups	0/ 5/ 0
2 p <sup>r</sup> brass Sconcers & 3 odd D <sup>o</sup>	0/10/ 0
2 q <sup>t</sup> 1 p <sup>t</sup> Mugs 1 Milk Pott & 1 Butter Bason	0/ 2/ 0
2 Glass Lanthorns 5/ 1 Close Stool pan 7/6	0/12/ 6
14 Flag bottom Chairs 20/ 1 Salver 1/ 1 Fender 2/6	1/ 3/ 6
2 Cases Buckhandle knives and forks	0/14/ 0

13 Knives & 3 forks 5/ 9 Ivory Do & 3 forks 3/	0/ 8/ 0
1 Warming Pan 6/ 1 hand Bell 1/6	0/ 7/ 6
2 Umbrellows 5/ 6 Pewter soop Plates 10/	0/15/ 0
33 flatt Plates 20/ 1 old Fiddle 2/6	1/ 2/ 6
1 doz. hard metal D ° 22/ 1 Pewter Cullender 2/	1/ 4/ 0
9 Pewter Dishes 25/ 6 old D ° 6/ 10 lb. old D ° 5/	1/16/ 0
8 White Chamber Pots & 2 Wash Basons	0/ 5/ 0
1 Lead Tobacco Dish 8/ a Parcel long Pipes 3/	0/ 6/ 0
1 Gallon & 1 Pottle Gorge 3/6 3 Potting Pans 1/6	0/ 5/ 0
1 Table & 1 hand Brush 1/6 Tin Sconcos 3/	0/ 4/ 0
3 old Funnels 3/ 3 house Bells 5/ 1 Painted Candle Box	
1 Pipe stand 1 Tinder Box and a Toaster	0/18/ 0
1 doz: Pattipans 2 Iron Candlesticks and 1 Grate	0/ 3/ 0
1 Copper Coffee Pott 5/ 1 Copper pott and Chopping Knife 2/	0/ 7/ 0
1 stew Pan & 2 old sauce pans 6/ 1 Coffee Mill 2/	0/ 8/ 0
1 Copper Fish Kettle 10/ 1 slate 6 <sup>d</sup>	0/10/ 6
2 Copper sauce pans	0/ 8/ 0
1 dozen Candle Moulds 18/ 1 folding Grid Iron 7/6	1/ 5/ 6
1 small Grid Iron 1/6 1 Iron Pott 5/ 1 D ° 14/	1/ 0/ 6
5 Brass Cocks & 1 Gimblet 10/ 1 p <sup>r</sup> Farrier 1 Toaster	0/ 1/ 3
1 Plate Warmer 7 ½ 3 bridles 5/	0/ 5/ 7 1/2
4 p <sup>r</sup> Money scales 12/6 & 1 frying Pan 1/	0/13/ 6
2 Tea Kettles 3/ 6 Wine Measures 14/	1/ 2/ 0
1 Chafing Dish 2/ 1 p <sup>r</sup> brass Scales & Weights 3/	0/ 5/ 0
2 flesh forks 1/3 1 waiter 1/ 1 small & Bell 1/6	0/ 3/ 9
1 Dutch Oven 15/ & 1 saddle Housing 30/	2/ 5/ 0
1 Dripping pan 1 Trivett 1 shovel 1 Hatchet 2 p <sup>r</sup> Garden Sheers & 1 p <sup>r</sup> tongs	0/10/ 0
1 Tin Cannister 1/6 3 square Tables 7/6	0/ 9/ 0
1 Scrubbing Brush 1 Broom 1 Mopp	0/ 2/ 0
1 Marble Mortar 12/6 1 Portmantua 2/6	0/15/ 0
2 spitts 1 Ax 1 spade	0/10/ 0
3 old Canes 1 p <sup>r</sup> Foils 3/ 4 butter Potts 1 gorge 15/	0/18/ 0
3 straw Cushions 1/ 2 screens 26/ 1 Elbow Chair 20/	2/ 7/ 0
1 meal Trough 2/6 1 large Oval Table 26/	1/ 8/ 6
1 small Oval Table 10/ 1 D ° 7/6	0/17/ 6
1 chimney Flower Pot 10/ 1 Passage Bench 1/	0/11/ 0
1 Oval Oak Table 10/ 1 large D ° 20/	1/10/ 0
2 pair Backgammon Tables	1/ 0/ 0
1 pair Tongs 2/6 9 old Glass Windows 10/	0/12/ 6
1 Billiard Table with sticks Balls &c	12/ 0/ 0
1 Case of Bottles with Brandy and Gin Drams	2/ 0/ 0
4 Benches 10/ 1 Trussel & Bed 12/6	1/ 2/ 6
1 Iron Pot Damaged 1/ 1 Jar with Tamarines 1/6	0/ 2/ 6
1 Gauging Rod 2/ 1 Wine Glass 1/	0/ 3/ 0

1 Glass 2/6 1 Feather Bed 2 Blankets Bolster 1 set field Curtains 1 Counterpin Bedstead and Cord	5/ 0/ 0
1 Field feather Bed 2 Blankets 1 Bolster 1 Counterpane &c	5/ 0/ 0
1 Bed 2 Blankets Bolster 2 Pillows Counterpain Bedstead Cord & Hide	3/ 0/ 0
1 Bed Bolster 2 Pillows 1 Blanket Bedstead Hide and Cord	2/ 0/ 0
1 Bed Bolster 2 Pillows 1 Blanket Bedstead and Cord	1/15/ 0
1 Bed 1 Blanket Bedstead and Cord	1/15/ 0
1 Bed Bolster 1 Rugg 2 Pillows Bedstead & Cord	1/15/ 0
1 small Bed and Quilt	1/ 0/ 0
12 China Cups	0/ 3/ 0
2 pair fine Holland sheets	6/ 0/ 0
1 pair sheets 20/ 1 p <sup>r</sup> D <sup>o</sup> 12/ 1 pair D <sup>o</sup> 12/	2/ 4/ 0
1 pair D <sup>o</sup> 12/ 1 p <sup>r</sup> D <sup>o</sup> 20/ 1 pair D <sup>o</sup> 7/6	1/ 19/ 6
2 pair D <sup>o</sup> 24/ 1 pair D <sup>o</sup> 5/ 1 pair D <sup>o</sup> 12/ 1 pair D <sup>o</sup> 7/6	2/ 8/ 6
1 Counterpain 35/ 1 D <sup>o</sup> 20/	2/15/ 0
5 Breakfast Cloths 15/ 3 damask Table Cloths 20/	1/15/0
1 Desk 50/ 7 Diaper Cloths 50/	5/ 0/ 0
12 Damask Napkins 20/ a Parcel of odd Curtains	1/10/ 0
4 bound Magazines 4/ a Parcel Books 10/	0/14/ 0
12 Roman Emperor Prints	0/ 2/ 6
1 doz: Leather Chairs 70/ 1 Cane Couch 10/	4/ 0/ 0
1 small Oval Table 5/ 1 Pipe stand and 1 Wine Crane 2/	0/ 7/ 0
13 Carboys Rum ab <sup>t</sup> 65 Gallons a 3/6	11/ 7/ 6
1 Pipe Madeira Wine	25/ 0/ 0
10 dozen Madeira Wine a 22/ pr doz	14/ 6/ 0
1 Quarter Cask Wine	5/ 0/ 0
10 dozen English Cider a 10/	5/ 0/ 0
19 Bottles strong Beer a 10/	0/15/10
8 doz: Yorkshire Ale a 9/	3/ 0/ 0
3 Gallons Arrack 20/	3/ 0/ 0
1 Iron Pott	0/15/ 0
3 Pails 1 Tin Kettle 1 Trivett 8 Earthern Pans 1 Lanthorn	0/10/ 0
2 old Tables and 3 Potracks	0/15/0
3 Flasks Florence Wine 1 D <sup>o</sup> of Oyl	0/ 6/ 0
1 Jug Oyl 6/ 5 Wine Pipes 10/	0/16/ 0
1 Chair & Harness	10/ 0/ 0
1 Horse called Spott	6/ 0/ 0
7 silver spoons & 1 Tankard w <sup>t</sup> 44 oz. a 6/ p <sup>r</sup> oz.	13/ 4/ 0
The remains of an old Sign with the Iron Work	2/ 0/ 0
1 long Table 4/ 1 safe 7/6 1 Chimney Glass and Sconces 20/	1/11/ 6
Sir Richard Steels Pictures 15/ 1 looking Glass 6/	1/ 1/ 0
1 Looking Glass 10/ a parcel of Mapps & Prints 30/	2/ 0/ 0
1 large Looking Glass 30/ 2 Pictures 10/	2/ 0/ 0
30 Prints and Mapps 30/ 16 bird Bottles 3/	1/13/ 0
5 Loaves D <sup>o</sup> Sugar w <sup>t</sup> 30 lb at 2/	3/ 0/ 0
2 Earthern Pans 1 Egg slicer & 2 Trays	0/ 2/ 0
11 p <sup>r</sup> Dice at 2/6	1/ 7/ 6

4 Cows at 35/ 1 Horse £3 1 D ° £5	15/ 0/ 0
Shropshire a Negro Man	40/ 0/ 0
Torrington D °	40/ 0/ 0
Bell a Negro Woman & 2 Children	50/ 0/ 0
Jenny an Old Woman	15/ 0/ 0
	£384. 3. 2 ½

<sup>1</sup>[Recorded York County November 17, 1746]

The appraisement of Pattison's and Burdett's personal property amounted to about the same amounts. It is probable that Burdett bought many items at Pattison's sale. Both listed "backgammon tables" and both stocked quantities of good liquors with decanters and glasses for serving &c. Burdett's inventory listed 11 beds while Pattison's listed 13. One item in Burdett's inventory was: "The remains of an old Sign with the Iron Work." If Burdett did purchase items from Pattison's sale, he may have bought "The sign of Edinburgh Castle with the irons etc".

No advertisements have been found for Burdett's Ordinary under any name at all in the *Virginia Gazette* . However, it looks as though--following Burdett's death--property was rented by the Pattison estate to Robert Lyon, a tavern keeper, barber and wigmaker. Certainly, Lyon was located there by 1755 when he advertised that he "kept tavern at the Sign of the Edinburgh Castle, near the Capitol." (Given chronologically in the report).

Prior to Burdett's sale, Christiana Burdett, administratrix, had advertised in the newspaper concerning it:

[September 4, 1746]

On *Wednesday* the 19th of this Instant, will be Sold to the highest Bidder, (next door to Mr. *Prentis's*, in *Williamsburg*, ) all Sorts of Household Goods, and Kitchen furniture also Horses, Cows, a good Billiard Table, well furnish'd with Sticks and Balls, a Quantity of choice old *Madeira* Wine, and old *Barbados* Rum, Ale Arrack, and several other Sorts of Liquors. Likewise a very good Two-wheel'd Chaise, with Harness for two Horses; it being the personal Estate of Mr. *John Burdett*, Deceas'd  
Christiana Burdett, Administratrix. <sup>1</sup>

Lyon seems to have been living in Williamsburg from early 1749 through 1767 at least. <sup>1</sup>A Manuscript Account Book of the *Virginia Gazette* carries charges against Robert Lyon from April, 1751 through December, 1764. <sup>2</sup>The York County Court records and the items in the *Virginia Gazette* indicate that Lyon was a barber and wigmaker of note.

We do not know just when he began occupancy of Lot 58. He advertised as a wigmaker in February, 1751, and in April, 1752 <sup>3</sup>; no location was given in either case. In June, 1753 Lyon gave a mortgage to John Hood of Prince George County for £100 to secure Benjamin Waller. This mortgage mentions Lyon's "Dwelling House <sup>4</sup>and Shop" and lists in an attached schedule the mortgaged items amounting to the large sum of £813.7.3:

[June 7, 1753]

[Robert Lyon, barber of Williamsburg  
to  
John Hood of Prince George County, Virginia, merchant,  
Consideration: £ 100 to secure Benjamin Waller]

... He the said Robert Lyon HATH Bargained Sold and Delivered and by these Presents DOTH Bargain Sell Assign and Deliver unto the said John Hood all those his four servant Man Goods Wares Tools Utensils of Trade and Merchandizes particularly named mentioned and expressed in a Schedule hereunto annexed which said servants Goods and Chattels are all now in the Possession of the said Robert Lyon in or about his Dwelling House and Shop in the said City TO HAVE AND TO HOLD... unto the said John Hood [until default in payments of Robert Lyon] ... AND LASTLY It is agreed between the said Parties that until breach of the said Proviso the said Robert Lyon shall and may quietly hold and Possess the said Servants Goods and Chattels without the interruption of him the said John Hood...  
Rob <sup>t</sup> Lyon (L.S.)

...

[Recorded in York County Court  
June 18, 1753]

#### The Schedule annexed.

£	oz	d	£
---	----	---	---

1	12	5	best Gray Hair a 22/ p <sup>r</sup> oz	30.16.-
4	9	-	best Grizzle Hair a £6 p <sup>r</sup> oz	27. 7. 6
-	4	-	best Horse and Goat 7/ p <sup>r</sup> oz	1. 8. -
2	8	-	2 <sup>d</sup> Goat Hair 6-/	7.10. -
-	11	-	2 <sup>d</sup> Horse Hair a 2/6 p <sup>r</sup> oz	1. 7. 6
12	8	-	Black Brown & Pale Hair 50/ p <sup>r</sup> oz	31. 5. -
3	4	-	Black Brown & Pale Crown 28/ p <sup>r</sup> oz	4.11. -
-	8	-	Wove Crown 5/ p <sup>r</sup> oz	2. -. -
1	6	-	Brown Horse Hair 2/6 p <sup>r</sup> oz	2.15. -
-	13	-	Black Horse Hair 2/6	1.12. 6
6	3	9	Dark Brown Hair 50/ p <sup>r</sup> oz	15. 9. 9
21	-	-	Brown & Black Hair not prepared 41/ p <sup>r</sup> oz	43. 1. -
5	-	-	Brown Crowns not prepared 28/	7. -. -
19	-	-	Persian Goat not prepared 37/6 p <sup>r</sup> oz	35.12. 6
7	-	-	Moyhair Crown not prepared 21/	7. 7. -
-	9	-	Coarse Moyhair Crown Curled 2/6	1. 2. 6
-	6	-	Fine Moyhair Crown Curled 3/9	1. 4. 6

60	Yards Narrow Wigg Ribon			1. 7. 6
72	Yards broad D <sup>o</sup>			1.12. 0
25	Wigg Cauls			1.13. 4
22	Oz: Ballandine Silk			0.10. 2
26	Wigg Roses			1.19. -
8	oz Purple Thread			1. -. -
22	Brown Wiggs a 26/			20.12. -
7	White Wiggs a 78/			27. 6. -
10	Grizzle Wiggs a 52/			26. -. -
7	Brown Albemarle Wiggs 32/3			18.14. 3
8	Oz: Raw Silk 3/9 p <sup>r</sup> oz			1.13. -
2	Ledger Books A:B. with the several Accounts in them to the amount of			336.10. -
12	large Wooden Box's a 2/6			1.10. -
6	Band Box's a 1/			0. 6. -
7	Leather Bottom Chairs			1. 2. 6
1	Copper Kettle			3. -. -
1	Tin Screen 6/6 1 Wooden Stove 23/			1. 9. 9
2	Working Tables			1. 8. -
1	Glass Show Case with Drawers			8.12. -
1	large Leaden Cistern & Sink			4. -. -
1	small Leaden Cistern			0. 5. 9
11	Mounting Blocks			5. 5. 9
1	Large Mounting Block			1.10. 0
4	Block Stands with 2 Dressing Blocks			0. 7. 6
1	pair Drawing Brushes 7/6---- 2 Hones 17/6			1. 5. -
2	Mixing Cards 20/ 1 Powdering Trough 10/			1.10. -
6	sets of frame Pins			0.15. -

1	pair Money Scales 10/ 5 Shaving Basons 12/6	1. 2. 6
1	Copper Water Pot 4/ 2 Pewter D ° 12/	0.16. -
12	Razors 30/ 4 Pair Scissors 2/	1.12. -
2	p <sup>r</sup> Brass Candlesticks 10/ 5 Iron D ° 5/	0.15. -
5	feather Beds and furniture	20. -. -
16	Shaving Cloths 25/ 6 Pounds hard soap	1.11. 6
125	lb fine flour a 13/	1. 2. 6
2	Iron Vices 10/ 1 pair Topee Irons 3/9	0.13. 9
2	Cards & Brush	0.16. 6
3	Nests of small Box's with Drawers	1. 7. 9
20	Groce of Curling Pipes 1/9	1.15. -
2	pair Drawing Brushes 10/3	1. 0. 6
2	pair Drawing Cards	1. 7. 6
10	Barrels of Corn a 10/	5. -. -
1	Desk	5. -. -
2	Chests 10/ 2 Tables 10/	1. -. -
6	Rush Bottom'd Chairs 9/ 4 doz: Bottles 10/	0.19. -
1	Bottle Case with 8 Bottles	0.14. -
1	Servant Man Named William Duncan	17. 4. -
1	D ° D ° named George Ridley	14.10. -
1	D ° D ° named John Ashwell	14.10. -
1	D ° D ° named Thomas Hewet	17. 4. -
1	Gun 21/6 1 Cutlash 30/	2.11. 6
		£813. 7. 3

Exam<sup>d</sup>

Rob<sup>t</sup> Lyon.

1[Recorded June 18, 1753  
York County]

On April 4, 1755 Lyon advertised in the *Virginia Gazette* that an Irish servant man named John D'Anvers, who "pretended to be by Trade a Barber Surgeon," had run away from him in Williamsburg. He offered a reward to anyone who would return the servant to him. 2

In August, 1755 Lyon advertised again. This time he listed some of the Wigs and equipment which he had on hand for sale, and mentioned his *location*: "at the Sign of the Edinburgh-Castle, near the Capitol":

[August 1, 1755]

*Just Imported by the Subscriber in WILLIAMSBURG, A CHOICE Assortment of very fine Hairs, and other Materials, from London, for making all Kinds of Wigs, viz. Tie Wigs, Brigadier Wigs, Bag Wigs, Bags, Albemarle Wigs with Roses, Que Wigs, with Ribbon, Bobs, Scratches, Cuts, & ° & ° Gentlemen may depend on being expeditiously served, after the neatest Manner, and good Allowance made for ready Money, by  
Their humble Servant,  
Robert Lyon.*

N.B. As I intend to settle my Affairs in *October* next, I desire all Persons indebted to me to make immediate Payment, that I may be enabled to fulfil my Promises to the Gentlemen I am indebted to.--- And those Gentlemen that fail to pay or send their respective Ballances to me before that Time, may depend on being immediately sued, let their Pretences to the contrary be what they will.--- I now keep Tavern at the Sign of the *Edinburgh* -Castle, near the *Capitol*; where Gentlemen may depend on very good Pasturage and Stablage for Horses; also the best Accommodations in my Power.

*Robert Lyon.* 1

In this notice, Lyon terms himself as "tavern keeper."

We do not know how long Lyon remained on this property. <sup>2</sup>

In 1757 Benjamin Waller (who had acquired the property via Pattison's heirs in 1754) conveyed to John Pearson Webb. No deed of 1754 has been located but from the deed below quoted we find that Waller had been owner since that date:

[March 25, 1757]

[Benjamin Waller

Martha, his wife,

to

John Pearson Webb, Gent.

Consideration: 275 pounds current money of  
Virginia]

... One Messuage House and Lot of Land lying and being in the said City of Williamsburgh bounded on the South by the Duke of Gloucester Street on the East by the Capitol Square and on the North by Nicholson Street and on the West by the Lot late of John Sharp now belonging unto Henry Wetherburn, being the Messuage House and Lot late in the Tenure and Occupation of John Burdett with the Appurtenances except thirty five feet Square laid off out of the East end of the said Lot which now belong to Nathaniel Walthoe Esq<sup>r</sup> which said Messuage House and Lot were Sold and Conveyed to the said Benjamin Waller by Thomas Pattison Son and Devisee of Thomas Pattison dec<sup>d</sup> by Indenture dated the first day of May, Recorded in the General Court And all Houses...

Ben Waller (L.S.)

Martha Waller (L.S.)

[Recorded June 20, 1757]

<sup>1</sup>

John Pearson Webb and Frances, his wife, had been running a combined mercantile and millinery business in Williamsburg. <sup>2</sup>  
Following the purchase of Lot 58, Webb seems to have run the business alone as Mrs. Webb notified her customers that she "had removed into the country" and desired all "who have any Demands against her to apply to the said WEBB for Payment, in Williamsburg." <sup>3</sup>

Webb died sometime prior to August, 1764 leaving a mortgage debt to Benjamin Waller. In order to pay off the remaining £150, Mrs. Webb leased the house and lot to James Hunter--the deed stipulating that the rents arising out of the lease should go towards freeing the debt:

[August 5, 1764]

[Frances Webb, widow of

John Pearson Webb, dec'd.

to

James Hunter, merchant.]

... WHEREAS the said John Pearson Webb at the time of his death was indebted to Benjamin Waller of the same City Gent: in the Sum of one hundred fifty pounds in part of the Consideration Money for a Messuage House and Lot of Land in the said City great part of which said Sum still remains due and unpaid... and also by his last Will and Testament did devise the said House & Lot to the said Frances Webb for her Life who is willing and desirous that the Debt due to the said Benjamin Waller should be secured and paid out of the Rents arising out of the said House and Lott... [rents the above to James Hunter for the term of seven years from August 31st in order to pay off indebtedness] ... and the said John Pearson Webb by an Indenture made the - Day of August 1756 did Mortgage the said House and Lot to William Webb and others who are securities to the said Benjamin Waller for the Consideration Money aforesaid ... [Frances Webb assigns the Yearly Rent of Thirty Pounds current Money until the Debt due be fully paid] ...

#### MEMORANDUM

The above parties agree that the said Frances Webb is to put the said House and Lots in Tenantable repair and to keep and sustain the same in such repair against all Natural Decay and the said James Hunter is to repair at his own charge all other Waste or Damage done to the said House and Lots during the said Term...

F. Webb (L.S.)

James Hunter (L.S.)

<sup>1</sup>[Recorded York County  
August 20, 1764]

Mrs. Webb had died by 1766. No records have been found to indicate that she had a will. However, William Waters of Williamsburg,



was her administrator:

WILLIAMSBURG, August 29, 1766.

ALL PERSONS INDEBTED TO THE estate of Mrs. FRANCES WEBB, deceased, are desired to make payment, and those who have any demands against the same to apply to WILLIAM WATERS, Adm. <sup>2</sup>

Research has failed to discover much about John Pearson Webb or his wife, Frances, other than that he was a merchant and she had a millinery business. From the meager sources available, it looks as though John Pearson Webb and wife had a son, John Webb, who was an attorney in Halifax, North Carolina. He must have come into the property at the death of his mother, Mrs. Frances Webb. At any rate, a John Webb was owner in 1774. He advertised in the *Virginia Gazette* that the property which he called "the Coffeehouse" was for sale:

[October 13, 1774]

For SALE,

THAT valuable and well situated Lot in *Williamsburg* where the Coffeehouse is now kept, which may be entered upon the 1<sup>st</sup> of *April* next---Also a Tract of Land in *Nansemond* County, within three Miles of *Suffolk* upon which is a good Stream for a Mill. . . It likewise may be entered upon the first of April next.---For Terms apply to *David Meade*, Esq; at *Maycox*; Mr. *Joseph Prentis*, Attorney, in *Williamsburg*; Mr. *Wills Cowper*, Merchant, in *Suffolk*; or to the Subscriber, in *Halifax* Town, *North Carolina*. JOHN WEBB. <sup>1</sup>

Webb, evidently, was calling the property "the Coffeehouse" in 1769. In that year Benjamin Bucktrout advertised that he would arrange "The lease of the large and commodious BRICK HOUSE, opposite to the Coffee-House and nigh the Capitol." <sup>2</sup> John Minson Galt may have taken up the Bucktrout's lease, for about six months later he published this notice: "The subscriber intends opening shop at the brick house opposite the coffee house, as soon as he gets his utensils fixed..." <sup>3</sup> "The BRICK HOUSE" was the house now known as the "Palmer House" located on lot 27. (See: Plat opposite page 1.) A Coffee House had been operated on lots 25 and 26 for some years, but at this date it had ceased and was owned by a merchant. Another Coffee House was being operated *behind* the Capitol by Mrs. Vobe at this date (1769). (See: House Histories of Lot 25 and Lot 21, Research Department).

An interesting notice appears in June, 1767 in the *Virginia Gazette*:

WILLIAMSBURG, *June* 25, 1767.

THE COFFEE-HOUSE IN THIS CITY BEING now opened by the subscriber as a Tavern he hereby acquaints all Gentlemen travellers, and others, who may please to favour him with their company, that they will meet with the best entertainment and other accommodations, such as he hopes will merit a continuance of their custom.

RICHARD CHARLTON. <sup>1</sup>

From the wording, it is impossible to ascertain whether Charlton was referring to the *English* Coffee House once in operation at Lot 25 and 26 and at this date inactive--, or whether he was referring to the Coffee House on Lot 58 which was owned by the Webb family and so called in John Webb's advertisement of 1774 quoted above (page 22). Research has established the fact that Charlton could *not* have been located at the Coffee House (Lot 21) behind the Capitol as Mrs. Vobe was there. (See: House Histories of these lots.) If Charlton kept his tavern in the Coffee House on lot 58--then, it was there that Washington often lodged, dined and attended the clubs from 1767-1774. <sup>2</sup>

In April, 1772 Mary Dickinson announced in the newspaper that "she had removed to the Store above the Coffeehouse, near the Capitol." <sup>3</sup> In October, 1773 Miss Dickinson advertised a long list of millinery and other goods describing her location as "next Door above the Coffee House." <sup>4</sup>

In September, 1777, John Webb again advertised his property for sale. As before, he noted it as "the Coffee House":

For SALE,

MY house and lot in *Williamsburg*, at present the COFFEE HOUSE.

For terms apply to me in *Halifax*, *North Carolina*,

JOHN WEBB. <sup>1</sup>

All court records for York County covering the period from 1777-1789 have been searched for deed of conveyance by Webb to this property. Nothing was found. So, a gap occurs in the chain to title from 1777 to ca 1782 when we know that David Meade was then the owner. See: deed of conveyance to Lot 57 below:

[July 10, 1789]

[Henry W. Nicholson and wife of James City

to  
Samuel Crawley of Williamsburg  
Consideration: 20 [200] pounds current money of Virginia]

...All that piece or parcel of land lying and being in the Parish of Bruton, City of Williamsburg County of York bounded as follows: On the South by the Duke of Gloucester Street on the West by the lot of William Nicolson on the North by Nicolson Street and on the East by the Lot of David Meade, and denoted in the Plan of the said City by the figures 57 which said lot is at present in the occupation of Ebenezer Ewing and Joseph Bryan... <sup>2</sup>

From this indication that Meade was owner of Lot 58, we checked into the Williamsburg Land Tax records to find that David Meade was in possession of this property from 1782 [the year the Land Tax Records begin] until 1809 when the lot was divided into two lots. One half was conveyed to George Morrison by Meade; <sup>3</sup>the other half was conveyed to Robert Anderson. (This was the western half and the subject of this report.) The Frenchman's Map (1782) of Williamsburg indicates a large house of rectangular shape facing upon the main street south.

Meade was the son of David Meade and Susannah Everard Meade of Nansemond County. He was born in 1744. In 1768 he married Sarah Waters, daughter of William Waters of Williamsburg. In 1769 he represented Nansemond County in the House of Burgesses. In 1774 he had moved to "Maycox" on the James River in Prince George County opposite "Westover." In 1796 Meade and his family moved to what is now the state of Kentucky. <sup>1</sup>

As referred to above, Meade sold the western part of Lot 58 in 1809 to Robert Anderson. Land Tax records so indicate: "Robert Anderson-----1/2 lot \$5 via Meade." <sup>2</sup>

Sometime between 1809 and 1817 James Thomson seems to have been owner though the land tax records do not give any record, but a conveyance in 1817 so indicates: "David Chalmers----1 lot---\$70 Via Joseph Hague. House and lot in said city formerly the property of James Thomason and THOMSON charged with \$1.20 tax, on the main street adjoining Morrison's & Robert Anderson's lots." <sup>3</sup>

Chalmers was a merchant. He paid a retail license of \$20 from 1817-1824, according to the Personal Property Tax list for Williamsburg. Hague was also a merchant. He paid license in 1815.

Chalmers proceeded to have his property insured by the Mutual Assurance Society. He stated that the property was in Williamsburg, York County on the main street, that it was "now occupied by myself and situated between Robert Anderson's lot on the west and George Morrisons lot on the East. The Dwelling & Store was valued at \$825 and was of wood one story high 30 by 27 feet." <sup>1</sup>

In 1822 Chalmers again insured his property. It was described as "my building on the main street in Williamsburg now occupied by myself situated between the George Morrison's lot on the East, Robert Anderson's lot West and streets otherwise... Dwelling and store \$640." <sup>2</sup>

In 1830 George Morrison purchased this lot from Chalmers: "George Morrison---1 lot \$500; buildings \$400 Via Jesse Cole trustee for David Chalmers." <sup>3</sup>Morrison insured the property describing it as "on the main street in Williamsburg now occupied by William Lee situated between another lot of mine on the East, Anderson's lot on the West, and streets otherwise on the N & S... Dwelling and store 31 by 27 with valuation \$700." <sup>4</sup>Lee was a merchant.

Morrison had been in possession of the eastern portion of Lot 58 from 1804. See: House History of the Walthoe Storehouse, Research Department.

Morrison was a merchant. He paid a retail license from 1825 to 1833, according to the Personal Property Tax List for Williamsburg.

The land tax valuation of the property changed from \$500 for house and lot in 1830 to \$900 for house and lot in 1840. <sup>1</sup>

In 1746 the estate of George Morrison insured the property thus: "that the said property is at present owned by the estate and children of the said George Morrison residing at Williamsburg and is occupied by John M. King That it is situated on the main street in Williamsburg on the south, having another lot of the estate on the east & a lot of Robert Anderson on the west... The Dwelling and Store \$600." <sup>2</sup>

By 1853 Morrison's heirs had sold to Robert Blassingham: "the lot formerly charged to George Morrison's estate"--the property was valued at \$800. <sup>3</sup>Blassingham insured the property stating that it was "occupied by himself and situated between The Lots of George Morrison's Estate on the East and on the West by that of -----." <sup>4</sup>

In 1855 Blassingham advertised that he kept a store on "the Main Street, Williamsburg, where he sold dry goods and groceries." <sup>5</sup>

Blassingham [Jr] insured the property in 1860 thus: "My Building on the North side of Main street now occupied by myself situated between a Lot of the Estate of Geo. Morrison on the East and that of ----- on the west... Dwelling and Store \$500." <sup>6</sup>

During Morrison's ownership the property was insured as "Dwelling and Store." In 1834 it was occupied by William Lee. In 1839 it

was "occupied by Peter H. A. Bellett." In 1846 it was occupied by John M. King. (Lee, Bellett and King were merchants. Lee and King paid retail licenses.) When Blassingham purchased it in November 1853, he stated in the insurance policy that it was occupied by *himself*. He repeated this assertion in 1860. In September, 1853, King had this notice in the *Virginia Gazette*:

FOR RENT, HAVING determined on leaving Williamsburg, I offer for rent... my house and lot where I now reside... The dwelling house has three large rooms and passage on the first floor, and two upstairs, with convenient outbuildings... Also for rent, the house where the subscriber occupied as a store...  
JOHN M. KING <sup>1</sup>

As Blassingham stated in November, 1853, when he insured the property that he was living thereon himself--, we infer that King's house and store prior to 1853 was on this lot and he wished to sub-let. The writer could not locate any property owned by King in the city. He had owned a lot which he sold in 1840 to John H. Barlow (Lot 56). In September 1855 he advertisement in the newspaper stated that he was a merchant on the main street in Williamsburg and sold groceries, tinware, hardware, confectioneries &c. <sup>2</sup>In September 1855 Blassingham advertised in the same issue that he sold "Dry Goods, Groceries on the Main Street." It looks as though King moved to some other location prior to Blassingham's ownership and occupancy of the property, as *both* were merchants.

In 1871 there was a suit: Peter T. Powell vs Robert & John Blassingham in the Chancery Court of Williamsburg. The commissioners advertised that they would sell "on the 12th DAY of February 1872, before the courthouse at Williamsburg to the highest bidder, TWO LOTS on which are buildings and improvements, on one of which is a good storehouse, in the city of Williamsburg... Williamsburg, Dec. 20, 1871." <sup>1</sup>

The two buildings on Lot 58 ( *Walthoe Storehouse* --later owned by George Morrison or heirs, on the eastern portion of the lot; and *Burdett's Ordinary* --the subject of this report to the west of lot) were described by late citizens of Williamsburg in reminiscences of Williamsburg ca. 1861, as follows:

...

The last house on the square facing on Duke of Gloucester street was upon the present site of Mrs. D. Armistead's residences, and was known as the Morrison house. This was a story-and-a-half frame house, with dormer windows. There was a porch along the street; but was high from the ground at the back. This old domicile was evidently also one of the originals, and being worn out in service, it was pulled down in 1883. <sup>2</sup>

Across the street from this [Kerr] house, on the site of the present Armistead home, stood a large, frame, story-and-a-half house. This house was owned and lived in by Miss Morrison and her bachelor brother's [?] - and so called the Morrison house. The premises surrounding this house were beautiful. The present Armistead house is built on the foundations of this old house.

To the west of the old Morrison house was a tiny, frame, story-and-a-half cottage, occupied and owned by the Blassinghams. The Red Lion Inn, a story-and-a-half house, stood a few yards west of the Blassingham house.... <sup>3</sup>

In the period 1859-1872 Blassingham or his heirs gave two deeds of trust on the property. <sup>4</sup>On April 1872 it came into the hands of John C. Timberlake who held it until his death in 1888. <sup>1</sup>In 1893 Missouri F. Timberlake, widow, conveyed a portion of the lot towards the north to S. E. S. Baker. In 1900 Baker conveyed this part of the property to E. W. Maynard. <sup>2</sup>Maynard sold to Chester Evans in 1916 <sup>3</sup>who conveyed the same year to Peninsula Realty Corporation. In 1921 the last named owners conveyed to Robert E. Donegan. <sup>4</sup>

In 1896 Missouri F. Timberlake conveyed to Eudoxie Donegan and R. E. Donegan that portion of the lot which faced upon Duke of Gloucester Street and was inherited by the will of her husband, John C. Timberlake in 1888. <sup>5</sup>In 1928 Donegan and other heirs conveyed the entire lot to W. A. R. Goodwin, representing the interests of Williamsburg Restoration. <sup>6</sup>

## Footnotes



<sup>^</sup> 1. See: [Illustration #4](#) for notes on Francis Sharpe.

<sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Deeds & Bonds, III, pp. 1-3.

<sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Deeds & Bonds, III, pp. 168-169 (Release Deed).

<sup>^</sup> 2. Ibid., Wills, Orders, XV, p. 230. Sharp had been denied a license the previous year.

<sup>^</sup> 3. See: House History of Walthoe Storehouse, Research Department.

<sup>^</sup> 1. See: [Illustration #4](#) for complete copy of Sharp's will as taken from Surry County Deed and Will Book (1738-1754), p. 115.

<sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Deeds V, p. 39-41.

- <sup>^</sup> 2. Ibid., Wills & Inventories 19, p. 187: May 16th 1743 Court.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Wills & Inventories, Book 19, pp. 204-205.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. Ibid., p. 234.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Wills & Inventories, Book 19, p. 169.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. Ibid., pp. 177-179.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. *Virginia Gazette*, Parks, ed., January 23, 1745/6.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Wills & Inventories, Book 20, pp. 37-38.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Wills & Inventories, Book 20, pp. 46-49.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. *Virginia Gazette*, Parks, ed., September 4, 1746.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. York County Court Records: (Judgments and Order Books) indicate that Robert Lyon had numerous suits during this period for debts owed him by parties in Williamsburg.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. Virginia Gazette Ms Account Books, photostat from original at University of Virginia Archives, copy in Research Department. See: [Illustration #4](#) for complete copy of Lyon's accounts.
- <sup>^</sup> 3. *Virginia Gazette*, February 14, 1751; April 4, 1751; April 24, 1752, and December 1, 1752.
- <sup>^</sup> 4. Research has found no indication that Lyon was located on any other lot in the city until 1760.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Deeds V, pp. 545-548. Mortgage dated June 7, 1753.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. *Virginia Gazette*, Hunter, ed., April 4, 1755.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. *Virginia Gazette*, Hunter, ed., August 1, 1755; also, August 8 and 15, 1755.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. Lyon acquired property in the "Market place in Williamsburg" in 1760. He conveyed this property in 1761 to Thomas Craig. (York County Records, Deeds 6, pp. 382-383). The *Virginia Gazette* notes that Lyon was located "in the Market Place in Williamsburg" in 1759 where he had general merchandise for sale. ( *Virginia Gazette*, November 30, 1759).
- <sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Deeds 6, pp. 81-82.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. *Virginia Gazette*, Hunter, ed., July 10, 1752.
- <sup>^</sup> 3. Ibid., April 22, 1757.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. York County Records, Deeds VII, pp. 43-45.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. *Virginia Gazette*, Purdie & Dixon, eds., August 29, 1766.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. *Virginia Gazette*, Purdie & Dixon, eds., October 13, 1774
- <sup>^</sup> 2. Ibid., Rind, ed., February 2, 1769.
- <sup>^</sup> 3. Ibid., Purdie & Dixon, eds., September 21, 1769.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. *Virginia Gazette*, Purdie & Dixon, eds., June 25, 1767.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. John C. Fitzpatrick, *George Washington Colonial Traveller*, (Indianapolis, 1927), pp. 203-360. See: [Illustration #4](#) for items of his visits.
- <sup>^</sup> 3. *Virginia Gazette*, Purdie & Dixon, eds., April 31 [30], 1772.
- <sup>^</sup> 4. Ibid., October 14, 1773.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. *Virginia Gazette*, Purdie ed., September 26, 1777.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. York County Records, Deed Book VI, p. 427.
- <sup>^</sup> 3. See: Walthoe Storehouse House History, Colonial Lot 58 east, Research Department.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. Information found in *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*, I, p. 289; and in William and Mary Quarterly, series 1, Vol. 8, p. 30: *Meade Family History*. Meade's letters to Judge Prentis and others are in typescript in the Research Department. These letters cover his residence in Prince George County and in Kentucky. They reveal nothing about this lot.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. See: [Illustration #2](#) for Williamsburg Land Tax Records from microfilm, Research Department. Original in Virginia State Library Archives.
- <sup>^</sup> 3. Ibid. Thompson conveyed six lots near the College Landing to Joseph Hague in 1818. No other indication from the tax records of conveyance of property in the city. However, Thompson must have held the lot via Anderson and sold to Hague who held it a very short time before conveying to Chalmers.
- <sup>^</sup> 1. See: [Illustration #3](#) for copy of insurance policy.
- <sup>^</sup> 2. Ibid.
- <sup>^</sup> 3. See: [Illustration #2](#).
- <sup>^</sup> 4. See: [Illustration #3](#).
- <sup>^</sup> 1. See: [Illustration #2](#) for complete records.

- ^ 2. See: [Illustration #3](#).
- ^ 3. See: [Illustration #2](#).
- ^ 4. See: [Illustration #3](#) for copy.
- ^ 5. *The Virginia Gazette*, September 6, 1855 issue; also November 9th, 1855 issue.
- ^ 6. See: [Illustration #3](#).
- ^ 1. *Virginia Gazette*, Williamsburg, Thomas Martin, ed., copy in William and Mary Archives.
- ^ 2. Ibid., September 6, 1855.
- ^ 1. James City and the City of Williamsburg Court Records: Chancery Suits, Box 36.
- ^ 2. "Recollections of Williamsburg", by John S. Charles, pp. 46-47, typescript Ms. CWI.
- ^ 3. "Williamsburg in 1861", by Mrs. Victoria M. Lee, pp. 10-11, typescript Ms. CWI.
- ^ 4. James City and the City of Williamsburg, Deed Book 1, p. 146, 296.
- ^ 1. James City and the City of Williamsburg, Will Book 3, p. 130.
- ^ 2. Ibid., Deed Book 3, p. 447.
- ^ 3. Ibid., Deed Book 7, p. 375.
- ^ 4. Ibid., Deed Book 9, p. 171.
- ^ 5. Ibid., Deed Book 3, p. 95.
- ^ 6. Ibid., Deed Book 13, pp. 63-65.

## Illustration #1



PHOTOSTAT COPY OF THE WILLIAMSBURG PLAT IN "WILLIAMSBURG, THE OLD COLONIAL CAPITOL" BY LYON G. TYLER

## Illustration #2

### Williamsburg Land Tax Records

1782	David Meade	1 lot	£ [torn]
1783	David Meade	1 lot	7.10
1788	David Meade	1 lot	4.--
1789	David Meade	1 lot	2.--
1797	David Meade	1 lot	2.--
1798	David Meade	1 lot	\$ 6.67
1804	David Meade	1 lot	5.00
1805	David Meade	1 lot	5.--
1809	Robert Anderson via Meade	1/2 lot	5.--
	George Morrison via Meade	1/2 lot	5.--
	George Morrison	1/4 lot	5.--
1810	George Morrison	3/4 lot	55.--
	Ro: Anderson via Meade	1/2 lot	5.--

1817	David Chalmers	1 lot	\$70 Via Joseph Hague. House and lot in said city formerly the property of James Thomson and charged with \$1.20 tax, on the main street adjoining Morrison's & Robert Anderson's lots.	
1818	George Morrison	3/4 lot	\$55	
	David Chalmers	1 lot	70	
1820	George Morrison	1 lot	\$500;	\$400 buildings
	David Chalmers	1 lot	\$500;	\$400 buildings
1830	George Morrison	1 lot	\$500;	\$400 buildings
	Via Jessee Cole trustee for David Chalmers			
		1 lot	\$500;	\$400 buildings
1841	George Morrison's Est	1 lot	\$1000;	\$900 buildings
		1 lot	\$1000;	\$900 buildings
1842	George Morrison's Est	1 lot	\$1000;	\$900 buildings
		1 lot	\$900;	\$800 buildings
1851	George Morrison's Est	1 lot	\$950;	\$800 buildings
		1 lot	\$800;	\$700 buildings
1853	Robert Blassingham	1 lot	\$800;	\$700 Formerly
	charged to George Morrison's Est.			
1856	Robert Blassingham	1 lot	\$ 800;	\$700 buildings
1857	Robert Blassingham	1 lot	\$1000;	\$700
1858	Robert Blassingham	1 lot	\$1000;	\$700
		1 lot	\$3000;	\$2600
1859	Robert Blassingham	1 lot	\$1000;	\$700
		1 lot	\$3000;	\$2600
		1 lot	\$850;	\$800 New House
		Assessed by Commissioners		
1860	Robert Blassingham	1 lot	\$1000;	\$700
		1 lot	\$3000;	\$2600

		1 lot	\$850;	\$800 New House
		Assessed by Commissioners		

## Illustration #3

### NO. 849

I the underwritten DAVID CHALMERS residing at WILLIAMSBURG in the county of YORK do hereby declare for assurance in the MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY against fire on buildings in the state of Virginia MY building on THE MAIN STREET IN WILLIAMSBURG now occupied by MYSELF and situated between ROBERT ANDERSON'S LOT ON THE WEST AND GEORGE MORRISON'S LOT ON THE EAST- ...

...

The DWELLING & STORE Marked A at Dollars 825 ...

...

Say EIGHT HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE Dollars in all.

I do hereby certify, and affirm, that I hold the above-mentioned building with the land on which it stands in FEE SIMPLE and that it is not, nor shall be insured elsewhere... Witness my hand and seal this 21st day of JUNE 1817.

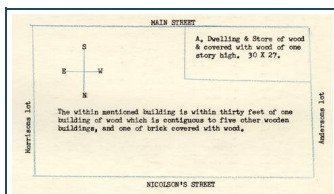
/s/ DAVID CHALMERS (Seal)

...

WE the underwritten, being each of us Freeholders, declare and affirm, that we have examined the above mentioned building of DAVID CHALMERS and we are of opinion that it would cost in cash ELEVEN HUNDRED dollars to build the same, and that now (after the deduction of TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY FIVE dollars) it is actually worth EIGHT HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE dollars in ready money...

...

/s/ Thomas Sands /s/ Edward Teagle Williamsburg



### NO. 5014. (REVALUATION OF BUILDING FORMERLY DECLARED FOR ASSURANCE (BY David Chalmers PER DECLARATION No. 849.

I the underwritten DAVID CHALMERS residing at WILLIAMSBURG in the county of YORK do hereby declare for Assurance in the MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY against fire...my building on THE MAIN STREET IN WILLIAMSBURG now occupied by MYSELF situated between GEORGE MORRISON'S LOT ON THE EAST, ROBERT ANDERSON'S LOT WEST AND STREETS OTHERWISE.

...

The DWELLING AND STORE Marked A at Dollars 640.

...

Say SIX HUNDRED AND FORTY DOLLARS

I do hereby declare and affirm that I hold the above mentioned building with the land on which it stands in FEE SIMPLE and that IT IS not, or shall be insured elsewhere ... Witness, my hand and seal this SEVENTEENTH day of DECEMBER 1822.

/s/ DAVID CHALMERS (Seal)

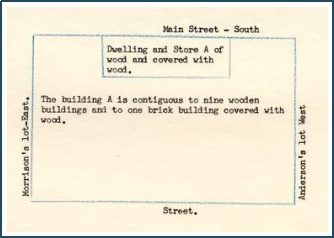
...



WE, the underwritten being each of us freeholders, declare and affirm, that we have examined the above-mentioned building of DAVID CHALMERS and we are of opinion that it would cost in cash EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS to build the same, and that now, (after the deduction of ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY dollars for decay or bad repair) IT IS actually worth SIX HUNDRED AND FORTY dollars in ready money...

/s/ Thomas Sands )  
Residing in Williamsburg.

/s/ Rich<sup>d</sup> Garrett )



**NO. 7595 (REVALUATION OF BUILDING FORMERLY DECLARED FOR ASSURANCE  
(BY David Chalmers per DECLARATION No. 5014.**

I the underwritten GEORGE MORRISON.. do hereby declare for Assurance... MY building on the MAIN STREET IN WILLIAMSBURG now occupied by WILLIAM LEE situated between ANOTHER LOT OF MINE ON THE EAST, ANDERSONS LOT ON THE WEST, AND STREETS OTHERWISE ON THE N. & S. in the county of YORK ...

...

The DWELLING AND STORE Marked A at \$700 Say SEVEN HUNDRED dollars

...

I do hereby declare and affirm, that I hold the above mentioned building with the land on which it stands in FEE SIMPLE and that it is not, nor shall be insured elsewhere... WITNESS my hand and seal this 20 day of MAY 1830

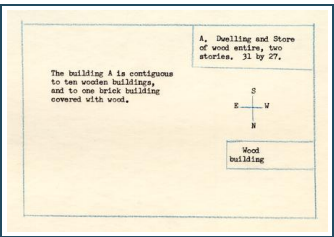
/s/ Geo. Morrison (Seal)

...

We, the underwritten, being each of us freeholders, declare and affirm, that we have examined the above-mentioned building of GEORGE MORRISON and we are of opinion that IT would cost in cash EIGHT HUNDRED dollars to build the same, and that now, (after the deduction of ONE HUNDRED dollars) it is actually worth SEVEN HUNDRED dollars in ready money...

/s/ Thomas Sands ) Residing in Williamsburg

/s/ W<sup>m</sup> M: Moody )



**NO. 11, 011 (REVALUATION OF BUILDING DECLARED FOR ASSURANCE BY  
(GEORGE MORRISON as per DECLARATION No. 7595.**

WE the underwritten, Robert Anderson Special Agent and Lucius F. Cary and Albert G. Southall, Appraisers, Do hereby Certify, that we have viewed and revalued, the Building heretofore declared for Assurance, in Mutual Assurance Society against Fire... by GEORGE MORRISON as per his Declaration for Assurance, Numbered 7595... That the said Building is at present owned by GEORGE MORRISONS HEIRS/and is occupied by PETER H. A. BELLETT That it is situated on THE MAIN STREET IN WILLIAMSBURG ON THE SOUTH, BETWEEN ANOTHER LOT OF GEORGE MORRISONS HEIRS ON THE EAST, ROBERT ANDERSONS LOT WEST AND NICOLSON STREET NORTH in the County of YORK

...

The DWELLING AND STORE Marked A at Dollars 800

...

Say EIGHT HUNDRED Dollars in all.

WITNESS our hands, This 24th day of APRIL 1839

/s/ Ro: Anderson) Special Agent for the M. A. Soc.

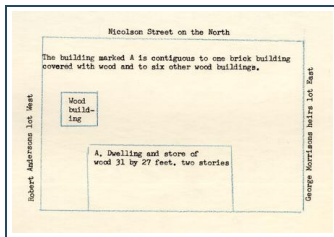
/s/ A. G. Southall) Appraiser residing in W<sup>ms</sup> burg

/s/ Lucius F. Cary) Appraiser residing in W<sup>ms</sup> burg

WE the underwritten, being each of us Freeholders, declare and affirm, that we have examined the above-mentioned building of GEORGE MORRISONS HEIRS and we are of opinion that it would cost in cash TWELVE HUNDRED dollars to build the same, and that now (after the deduction of FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS) it is actually worth EIGHT HUNDRED dollars in ready money...

/s/ A. G. Southall

/s/ Lucius F. Cary



**NO. 14,401**

**(REVALUATION OF BUILDING DECLARED FOR ASSURANCE BY  
(THE ESTATE OF GEORGE MORRISON as per Declaration No. 11, 011**

We, the underwritten, *Robert Anderson* Special Agent and *John M. Maupin* and *Goodrich Durfey*, Appraisers, do hereby certify that we have viewed and revalued the Building heretofore declared for Assurance, in the MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY against Fire on Buildings...by THE ESTATE OF GEORGE MORRISON as per Declaration for Assurance, Numbered 11, 011

That the said Building is at present owned by THE ESTATE AND CHILDREN OF THE SAID GEORGE MORRISON residing at WILLIAMSBURG and is occupied by JOHN M. KING That it is situated on THE MAIN STREET IN WILLIAMSBURG ON THE SOUTH, HAVING ANOTHER LOT OF THE ESTATE ON THE EAST & A LOT OF ROBERT ANDERSON ON THE WEST in the County of York...

...

The DWELLING AND STORE Marked A at \$600

...

Say SIX HUNDRED Dollars in all.

WITNESS our hands, this THIRD day of OCTOBER 1846 ...

/s/ Ro: Anderson Special Agent for the M. A. Society.

/s/ G. Durfy Appraiser, residing in W<sup>ms</sup> burg

/s/ Jno M Maupin Appraiser, residing in W<sup>ms</sup> burg

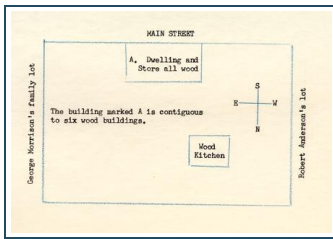
...

We, the underwritten, being each of us freeholders, declare and affirm, that we have examined the above mentioned Building of GEORGE MORRISONS ESTATE and we are of opinion that having regard to its local situation, state of repair, and the present cost of building, it is now actually worth SIX HUNDRED dollars in ready money...

/s/ G. Durfy

/s/ Jno. M Maupin

...



### **No. 17,623**

#### **(REVALUATION OF BUILDING FORMERLY DECLARED FOR ASSURANCE**

#### **(BY Estate of George Morrison per DECLARATION No. 14,401.**

I the underwritten ROBERT BLASSINGAME residing at Williamsburg in the county of YORK do hereby declare for Assurance in the MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY against Fire...MY Building on THE MAIN STREET IN WILLIAMSBURG now occupied by MYSELF situated between THE LOTS OF GEORGE MORRISON'S ESTATE ON THE EAST AND ON THE WEST BY THAT OF \_\_\_\_\_ in the county of YORK...

...

The DWELLING & STORE Marked A at \$600

...

I do hereby declare and affirm, that I hold the above-mentioned Building with the land on which it stands in FEE SIMPLE and that IT IS not, nor shall be insured elsewhere...

Witness my hand and seal this 14 day of NOVEMBER 1853

/s/ ROBERT BLASSINGHAM (Seal)

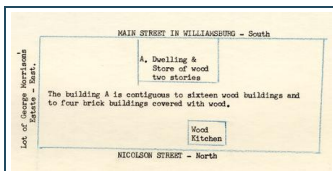
...

We, the underwritten, being each of us freeholders, declare and affirm, that we have examined the above-mentioned Building of ROBERT BLASSINGAME and we are of opinion that having regard to its local situation, state of repair, and the present cost of building, IT IS now actually worth SIX HUNDRED dollars in ready money...

/s/ W<sup>m</sup> S. Peachy)

/s/ Jno A Deneufville) Residing in Williamsburg

...



### **No. 21,316**

#### **(REVALUATION OF BUILDING FORMERLY DECLARED FOR ASSURANCE (By Robert**

#### **Blassingham per Declaration No. 17623**

I the underwritten ROBERT BLASSINGHAM residing at WILLIAMSBURG in the county of YORK do hereby declare for Assurance in the MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY against Fire... MY Building on the NORTH SIDE OF MAIN STREET now occupied by MYSELF situated between a LOT OF THE ESTATE OF GEO. MORRISON ON THE EAST AND THAT OF \_\_\_\_\_ ON THE WEST IN THE SAID CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG AND in the county of YORK...

...

The DWELLING AND STORE Marked A at \$500

...

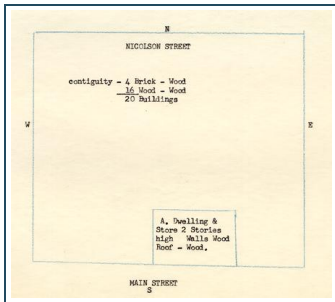
Say FIVE HUNDRED Dollars ...

I do hereby declare and affirm, that I hold the above-mentioned Building with the land on which it stands in FEE SIMPLE and that IT IS not, nor shall be insured elsewhere...

WITNESS MY Hand and seal this 31st day of DECEMBER 1860.

/s/ ROBERT BLASSINGHAM (Seal)

...



## Illustration #4

### **THE WILL OF FRANCIS SHARP**

In the Name of God Amen I Francis Sharp of the parish of Lawnes Creek in the County of Surry being weak in body but of Sound mind and disposing Memory praised be God for it and knowing the uncertainty of human Life do make this my Last Will and Testament in Manner and fform following I commend my Soul into the protection of Almighty God trusting through the Intercession of the Blessed Jesus to receive free pardon and Remission of all my Sins and my Body I leave to the Earth to be buried at the discretion of my Executor hereafter named and Concerning my Worldly Goods and Estate that it hath pleased God to bestow upon me in this Life I Give devise and bequeath in Manner and form following Imprimis, I give and devise to my son ffrancis Sharp the Lot of Land House and Appurtenances in the City of Williamsburg that Mr: Burdet now liveth upon Adjoining to the Capitall Square (Excepting thirty five feet to be laid off out of the East end of y<sup>e</sup> said Lot) and one hundred and thirty-five Acres of Land in the County of Isle of Wight Lying on the Beaver Dams and also an Entry of three hundred Acres of Land lying upon the flatt Swamp which said House and two Tracts of Land I give to my said Son his Heirs and Assigns for ever I also give to my said Son fforty pounds Currant mony to purchase two Slaves Item I give and devise to my Son Jacob Sharp the Lot of Land and House and Appurtenances adjoining to the Market place in the Citty of Williamsburg now in the Occupation of John Rice, Taylor, and two hundred and fforty Acres of Land in y<sup>e</sup> Isle of Wight County it being the remainder of that Land I bought of Edward Simmons which said House and Tract of Land I give to my said \_\_\_\_\_ his Heirs and Assigns for ever I also give to my son Jacob a Neagro Slave Called George and a Negro Slave Called Peter to him and his Heirs for ever I also give and devise to my said Son Jacob Sharp his heirs and Assigns for ever three Hundred and fifty Acres of Land Joining on Amos Garris I also give to my said Son Jacob and his Assigns my Still with all the Appurtenances thereto belonging Item I Give to my Son John Sharp the House or Tenement now in the Occupation of Roadwell a Shoemaker it lying in the Citty of Williamsburg and the Plantation whereon I now live upon that is now called by the name of Young Thomas Smiths then along a line of markt trees near an East Course to a branch Called Possums and into the great Branch which said House Land and Plantation I give unto my said Son John Sharp and to his Heirs and Assigns for ever (Excepting what Timber my Son Jacob and William Sharp Shall want off of the said Land towards the building and re pare ing of their own Houses upon their said Lots and Plantations) I also Give to my said Son John a Negro woman Called Moll & her Increase and a Negro Man Called Daniel to him and his Assigns for ever Item I give and devise to my Son William Sharp the remaining part whereon I live now of y<sup>e</sup> said Land and plantation and my Entry of Land att the Secory Chapell and a Negro woman Called Nan and her Increase to Him and his Heirs and Assigns for Ever and I also give to my said Son William Thirty five feet out of the East End of y<sup>e</sup> Lot given to my Son Francis whereon M<sup>r</sup> Burdet in Williamsburg now lives a d also what timber he shall want towards the building and Repairing upon the said Lot and plantation of off y<sup>e</sup> Land given to my Son John to him his Heirs and Assigns for ever Item I give to my Daughter Sarah Sharp a Negro man Called Robin another Called Prince and a Negro woman Called Bess to her and her Assigns for ever

Item I give to my Daughter Mary a Negro Man Called ffrank and a Negro Man called Jemmy to her and her Assigns for ever - Item I give to my Daughter Eliz<sup>a</sup>: Garris a Gold Ring of ten shilling price

Item I give to my Daughter Comfort King three pounds a year for the Space of twenty years next Ensuing my Decease to be paid her by my Executor Annually in Credit in some Convenient Store provided she shall Live so Long Item It is my will and desire that all the Remainder of my personal Estate not herein before Specifically devised Remain in the Hands of my Son Jacob Sharp during the space of one year next ensuing after my Decease and then by him to be sold for three years Day of payment upon Security given and that the Monies arising on y<sup>e</sup> said Sale be Equally divided amongst all my Children above named (Excepting Son Francis Sharp Eliz<sup>a</sup>: Garris and Comfort King) which said Persons I do hereby Exclude from any part of my Estate not Specifically hereby given to them) and do hereby desire and appoint my well beloved and trusty friend M<sup>r</sup>: Charles Binns to see that this my will be duly performed Lastly I do hereby Constitute and appoint my Son Jacob Sharp to be full and sole Executor of this my last will and Testament hereby revoking all other wills by me formerly made In Witness Whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this

fourteenth Day of August in year of our Lord 1739

francis Sharp  
Seal'd w<sup>th</sup>  
red wax

Signed Sealed and Declared  
to *be* my Last Will and Testament  
in Presence of Us

signum  
Thomas B Bell  
William W Evans  
signum

signum  
Mary X Bell

At a Court held for Surry County Feb<sup>ry</sup> y<sup>e</sup> 21<sup>th</sup> 1739

The above mention'd Will of Francis Sharp deceased was presented in Court by Jacob Sharp Executor thereof who made Oath thereto & gave Bond with Security according to Law and being proved by the Oaths of Thomas Bell and William Evans Witnesses thereto the same is ordered to be recorded and is recorded by

John Allen  
Cl: Cur<sup>r</sup>:

A Copy,  
Teste:  
/s/ S B Barham Jr Clerk

[ ~~York County~~ Surry Records  
Deeds and Wills, Book 4, 1738-54, page 115]

Virginia Gazette Ms. Acct. Book April 30, 1751

Robt Lyon D<sup>r</sup> To Advertising your Debts - 5. -

*Ibid.*, October 3, 1751

**Robert Lion D<sup>r</sup> To sundry Accounts**

To stationery For 1 Quire of Paper	1. 3	
To Cash Paid W <sup>m</sup> Parkr's Estate	1.11. 6	
D <sup>o</sup> yourself 4/6 D <sup>o</sup> formerly 8/9	13. 3	2. 6. -

**Sundry Accounts D<sup>r</sup> To Robert Lion viz**

Household Expences For a Wig	£ 2. 3. -	
Riders for Horsehire	15.	2.18. -

*Ibid.*, April 1, 1752 Robert Lion D<sup>r</sup> 1 Quire Paper 1. 6

*Ibid.*, May 16, 1752 Robert Lyon D<sup>r</sup> To Q<sup>r</sup> Paper 1. 3

*Ibid.*, January 1764 Robert Lyon p<sup>r</sup> Son  
Common Almanack 7/

*Ibid.*, April 7, 1764 Robert Lyon D<sup>o</sup> from Warwick 7 ½

*Ibid.*, June 21, 1764 Robert Lyon p<sup>r</sup> Self  
The World 4 vol<sup>s</sup> 24/ Maire's Bookeeping 12/6 1 - 16. -

*Ibid.*, September 10, 1764 Robert Lyon D<sup>o</sup> from D<sup>o</sup> -. -. 5

*Ibid.*, December 1765 To Robert Lyon recd of Jo Royle 5. 3. 11

## WASHINGTON AT CHARLTON'S IN WILLIAMSBURG

John C. Fitzpatrick, ed., *George Washington Colonial Traveller, 1732-1775*

p. 203

"1767, November 6, *Friday*. Williamsburg.

... By Club at Hays 16/ By Ditto at Charltons

2/."-- *Ledger A, op. cit.*

p. 210n.

1768, May 4, *Monday*. [Williamsburg]

"supped at Richard Charlton's" (Also, *Diaries of George Washington*, Vol. I, p. 268.)

p. 210n.

May 7, *Saturday*

"at Charlton's"

John C. Fitzpatrick, ed.,

*Diaries of George Washington, 1748-1799, Vol. I*

p. 355

1769, December 8. [Williamsburg]

"Dined at Mrs. Campbell's and was engaged at Charlton's  
abt. Colo. Moore's Lott'y the Evg."

*Ibid.*, II, p. 15n.

1771, May 11 [Williamsburg]

"paid Mrs. Charlton £9.8.3 for Miss Custis and 5s.9d.  
for Mrs. Washington."

p. 59n.

1772, April

"By Mrs. Charltons Acct. against Miss Custis 16s.3d.

By Ditto for Mrs. Washington 16s.0d.

By Ditto for my board there since the 1st. of March  
£11.0.0"

John C. Fitzpatrick, ed.,

*George Washington Colonial Traveller, 1732-1775*

p. 326n.

1772, November 20 [Williamsburg]

"Washington paid Charlton £4.10.0"

pp. 329-330

"1773, March 4, *Thursday*. King William County and Williams-  
burg."

"Dined at Doncastle's and got to Williamsburg abt. half an hour by Sun. Lodgd at Mr. Charlton's spending the Eveng. in my  
own Room alone."

John C. Fitzpatrick, ed.,

*Diaries of George Washington, 1748-1799, Vol. II*

p. 132n.

1773, December 4 [Williamsburg]

"Washington and young Custis boarded at Charlton's and their joint bill was £10.10.0. Mrs. Charlton's account against Mrs. Washington and Miss Calvert amounted to £17.0.6."

Ibid., p. 153

1774, May 31, [Williamsburg]

"Dined at Mr. Charlton's and spent the Evening in my Room."

p. 154n.

June 18, [Williamsburg]

"By Mr. Charltons Acct. for Board & ca. £14.17.0. By Mrs. Charltons Acct. agt. Mrs. Washington £5.5." ( *Ledger B.*)

John C. Fitzpatrick, ed.,  
*George Washington Colonial Traveller, 1732-1775*

p. 360n.

1774, August 1-6

The five nights Washington spent in Williamsburg, he spent in his own lodgings at Charlton's: "Spent the Evening in my Lodgings."

June 10, 1994

To: John Ingram, Curator of Special Collections, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Library

From: Pat Gibbs, Department of Historical Research

Subject: *Comments on Coffeehouses and the Location of the Exchange; Uncertainty about the Location of Pattison's Tavern; Also Supplement to Historical Reports: Block 17, Building 2C, Lot 58 ["Burdett's Ordinary Block 17-2, Colonial Lot 58 West"]; Block 17, Lot 58 ["Walthoe Store House Block 17 - Lot 58 East" (Site of Dora Armistead House)]; and Block 7, Building 45Y ["Christiana Campbell's Tavern"]*

This memo, based on some information unknown when these reports were written about forty years ago, corrects and clarifies conclusions in the reports but also leaves some points unanswered and unanswerable due to incomplete records.

### ***Coffeehouse Locations and the Location of the Exchange:***

Harold Meyers's article, "The Exchange," *Colonial Williamsburg* (Winter 1993-1994), pp. 30-31, implies that in the early 1980s the Foundation relocated the Exchange from the area east of the Capitol walls to the area just west of the Capitol *without* sufficient justification. I have recently reviewed all references to coffeehouses and to the Exchange and believe that the decision of the Foundation's major oversight committee [then called the Program Planning and Review Committee] was justified. See "The Merchant's Exchange Relocated," in the July 1983 issue of *The Colonial Williamsburg Interpreter* and comments below.

In his 3 November 1765 letter to the Board of Trade, Lt. Gov. Francis Fauquier referred to "the Coffee house (where I occasionally sometimes go) which is situated in that part of the Town which is call'd the Exchange tho' an open Street, where all money business is transacted" [George Reese, ed., *The Official Papers of Francis Fauquier: Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, 1758-1768* (Charlottesville, 1980), III, pp. 1291-1293]. Because evidence locating the Exchange is scanty and ambiguous, it is necessary to answer instead this question, "Where was the coffeehouse during the 1760s and 1770s?" None of the references indicate that there was ever more than one establishment by that name at any given time in early Williamsburg. References imply that the coffeehouse was located on the eastern side of Lot 58 during the 1760s and early 1770s. Neither Fauquier's letter nor any other source identifies the proprietor during the mid 1760s. By June 1767 Richard Charlton rented the coffeehouse and operated it as a tavern [ *Virginia Gazette* (Purdie & Dixon) 25 June 1767, p. 3]. The location is clearly identified in Benjamin Bucktrout's 9 February 1769 advertisement offering to lease the brick house [known from other sources as the Palmer House] "opposite to the Coffee House and nigh the Capitol" [Ibid., p. 3]. Two years later an advertisement for the sale of the eastern portion of Lot 58 indicates that Christiana Campbell operated a tavern at the "COFFEE-HOUSE in the main Street, next the Capitol." That fall she moved to the tavern "behind the Capitol, lately occupied by Mrs. Vobe." [Ibid., 16 May 1771, p. 3; 3 October 1771, p. 3].

From about 1772, but definitely by 1774, through 1777, the landmark known as the coffeehouse operated in the adjoining building on the west side of Lot 58. An unsigned notice about private lodgings for seven or eight gentlemen "at the Coffee-house, near the Capitol" could refer to either of the buildings on Lot 58 fronting on Duke of Gloucester Street [Ibid., 23 January 1772, p. 3]. In 1774 John Webb advertised for sale the building formerly occupied by John Burdett on the western side of Lot 58 as that Three years later Webb again advertised the property described as "at present the COFFEE HOUSE" [Ibid., 13 October 1774, p. 3, and 26 September 1777, p. 3]. Use of *now* and *present* in these notices implies a change in location.



References to *coffeehouses* appear intermittently during the years Williamsburg served as the colony's capital. William Byrd's diaries for 1709-1712 and 1740 mention visits to "the coffeehouse" but never name the proprietor or give the location. His comments and all later references to coffeehouses — except for Richard Charlton's *Virginia Gazette* (Purdie & Dixon) 25 June 1767 advertisement that notes "THE COFFEE-HOUSE IN THIS CITY BEING now opened by the subscriber *as a Tavern* " — indicate that the coffeehouse functioned as a tavern, offering customers places to gather and obtain food, drink, lodging, and care for their horses. This was certainly true for tenant Daniel Fisher, who operated the "English Coffee House" from October 1751 to February 1752 in the building where James Shields formerly kept a tavern [ *Virginia Gazette* (Hunter), 3 October 1751, p. 3, and 20 February 1752, p. 4].

To date, no references have come to light that locate a coffeehouse on Lots 21 and 22 where Christiana Campbell's Tavern has been reconstructed even though several books, the house history for the tavern, several early research reports, and memos make that assumption. These secondary sources use circular reasoning to locate the Exchange east of the Capitol, placing the Exchange near the coffeehouse on Lots 21 and 22 because the coffeehouse was near the Exchange. I suspect that early researchers were influenced by the fact that an early nineteenth-century insurance plat shows that the tavern on Lots 21 and 22 had a large front porch. According to Fauquier's 1765 letter, the coffeehouse had a porch large enough to seat Fauquier, members of the Council, and others. Because the law directing the building of Williamsburg required that structures fronting the main street be set back six feet from the street, few buildings on Duke of Gloucester Street had sizeable front porches. Unless the area around the Dora Armistead House is excavated and foundations or postholes reveal the location of the porch, I can do little more than suggest that the coffeehouse may have had a long, shallow front porch *or* possibly a side porch overlooking the Capitol.

### ***Uncertainty about the Location of Pattison's Tavern at the Sign of the Edinburgh Castle:***

Even though tavernkeeper Thomas Pattison acquired the western part of Lot 58 sometime before the fall of 1742, it is unlikely that he and his wife ever lived or kept a tavern there [York County Deeds & Bonds, III, 168-169]. John Burdett was already a well-established tenant who apparently lived there with his family and operated a tavern at this location until his death in 1746. Early Colonial Williamsburg researchers, unaware that his widow Anne Coke Pattison took over the tavern that her husband had operated, assumed that the "old Sign with the Iron Work" in John Burdett's 1746 inventory was "The Sign of Edinburgh Castle with the Irons &c" listed in Thomas Pattison's 1742 inventory [YC Wills & Inventories, Book XIX, 177-179; Book XX, 46-49]. A more likely scenario is that Thomas Pattison, who was an established tavernkeeper before he bought the property occupied by John Burdett, lived and kept his tavern at another location on the York County side of Williamsburg. After John Burdett's death in 1746, Mrs. Pattison may have moved her tavern to the building formerly occupied by Burdett *or* she might have remained at the location where her husband had operated a tavern. What *is* known is that several months after her death in February 1755, Robert Lyon advertised in the *Virginia Gazette*: "I now keep Tavern at the Sign of the *Edinburgh* -Castle, near the *Capitol* " [Hunter, 1 August 1755, p. 3; *Maryland Gazette*, 20 March 1755]. No other reference to a tavern by this name appears in early Williamsburg records.

Judging by the number of selected items in their inventories, Thomas Pattison's tavern was considerably larger than Burdett's, about the same size as James Shields's, and smaller than Wetherburn's. Burdett had nine beds, Pattison and Shields each had fourteen, and Wetherburn had twenty. Burdett had twelve tables, Pattison and Shields each had sixteen, and Wetherburn had twelve. Burdett had 28 chairs plus 4 benches, 1 passage bench, and a cane couch; Pattison had 61 chairs, Shields had 60 chairs, and Wetherburn had 71 chairs. Because part of Wetherburn's inventory is mutilated, he probably had more furniture than is listed [YC Wills & Inventories, Book XIX, 177-179; Book XX, 46-49 and 198-200; Book XXI, 36-43].

One especially useful new/old source about the daily operations of a tavern in Williamsburg is the "Anne Coke Pattison Account Book [1743/4-1748/9]" that curator Betty Leviner discovered in April 1991 at the Virginia Historical Society [Foundation Library photocopy, PH 72].

## **A Summary of Known Eighteenth-Century Owners, Occupiers, and Building Uses for the Eastern and Western Portions of Lot 58:**

### ***Lot 58 West [Known as Burdett's Ordinary]***

<b>Owners:</b>	<b>Occupiers:</b>	<b>Building Use:</b>
1717, FRANCIS SHARPE (d. 1739) from Trustees, Lots 57 and 58 [YC Deeds & Bonds,III,168-9]	Before 1739-d.1746 John Burdett [YC Wills & Inventories,XX,40-49]	Tavern
1739 -FRANCIS SHARPE, Jr.,via father's will, Lot 58 (except 35 foot strip on east side of lot given to son William Sharpe [Surry County Deed & Will Book, 1738-54, 115])	Burdett	Tavern
Sometime before October 1742 THOMAS PATTISON (d. late 1742 or early 1743) from Jacob Sharpe [YC Deeds V, 39-41]	Burdett	Tavern

1743-1754 PATTISON estate	Burdett to d. 1746; after 1746 ?	Tavern
1754 BENJAMIN WALLER from Thomas Pattison, son [YC Deeds VI,81-82]	?	?
1757 JOHN PEARSON WEBB (d. before Aug. 1764) from B. Waller [YC Deeds VI, 81-82]	J.P. Webb?	?
	?	?
1764-66 FRANCES WEBB (d. 1766), widow of J.		
P. Webb [ <a href="#">Va. Gaz.</a> (Purdie & Dixon), 29 Aug. 1766, p. 2]	1764[-72?] James Hunter [YC Deeds VII, 43-45]	Store &/or house?
c.1766-sometime before 1782 JOHN WEBB of Halifax, NC [probably son of J.P. and F. Webb]	?	By 1774, lot for sale "where the Coffeehouse is now kept" [ <a href="#">Va. Gaz.</a> 13 Oct. 1774, p. 3]; "at present the COFFEE HOUSE", [26 Sept. 1777, p.3]
[Gap in records between 1777 and 1782]		
By 1782-1809 David Meade [Williamsburg Land Tax Records; YC Deeds VI, 427]	?	?

### ***Lot 58 East [Known as Walthoe's Storehouse (Site of Present Dora Armistead House)]***

*Note:* After 1750, deeds call the building on this property a storehouse but newspaper advertisements indicate that during the 1760s and 1770s the building served as a coffeehouse, a tavern, a lodginghouse, and probably a dwelling.

Owners:	Occupiers:	Building Use:
1717, FRANCIS SHARPE (d. 1739) from Trustees,		
Lots 57 and 58 [YC Deeds & Bonds,III, 168-9]	?	?
1739, WILLIAM SHARPE, via father's will, 35 foot wide strip east side of lot [Surry Co. Deed & Will Book, 1738-54, 115]	?	?
[Gap in records between 1739 and about 1750]		
Before Aug. 1750, JOHN LIDDERDALE sold to ROBERT CRICHTON who built storehouse [YC Deeds V, 388-389]	?	?
1750, ROBERT CRICHTON to Nathaniel Walthoe store house opposite store of John Palmer [Ibid.]	?	?
1759, NATHANIEL WALTHOE to Benjamin Bayley [ <i>Ibid.</i> Deeds VI, 190-191]	?	?
1762, BENJAMIN BAYLEY to Nathaniel Walthoe [ <i>Ibid.</i> , 427-429]	By 1765 ?	Coffeehouse [ <i>Papers of Fauquier</i> , III, pp. 1291-1293]
	By 1767 Richard Charlton	Tavern [ <a href="#">Va. Gaz.</a> (Purdie & Dixon) 25 June 1767, p. 3]
	C. May-Oct. 1771 Christiana Campbell [ <i>Ibid.</i> , 3 Oct. 1771, p. 3]	Tavern

		[Property of N. Walthoe for sale, including "the COFFEEHOUSE in the main Street, next the Capitol, where Mrs. <i>Campbell</i> lives." Ibid., 16 May 1771, p. 3; G. Washington paid Campbell for tavern expenses in May and July 1771, George Washington Ledger A (1750-1772), ff. 335, 337, 340]
	By 1772 ?	Lodginghouse [ <a href="#">Va. Gaz.</a> (Purdie & Dixon) 23 Jan. 1772, p. 3]
Mar. 1772, BENJAMIN WALLER for heirs of Nathaniel Walthoe (d. 1770) to Charlotte Dickson [YC Deeds VIII, 209.	Charlotte Dickson	Dwelling ? [There is no record that she owned any other land in Williamsburg.]
1801-1804, estate of C. Dickson [Williamsburg Land Tax records]		
	P. &, P. G.	