Chairman’s Message

This year the department was the grateful recipient of the John Keene Library Acquisition Fund which John and Marion Keene of Gloversville, N.Y., gave in honor of their son, John Jr., who received his master’s degree in history in 1970. The Keene Fund is the newest in a small, but, we hope, growing, list of endowments and annual gifts for support of the study of history at the College. State budgets, as everyone realizes, necessarily focus on the main ingredients of the educational program: salaries, buildings, and supplies. It is the availability of private monies such as the Keene Fund that permit enrollment of the department’s offerings to make them more meaningful to students, parents, and faculty alike. I would like to take this opportunity to describe the gifts that to date the department has been honored to receive to illustrate the many ways such contributions may enhance the basic program.

Two of the department’s oldest funds are in honor of a former chairman, Richard Lee Morton, for whom the social studies building is named, and William Elbert Fraley, who attended the College early in this century. These funds allow the award of two prizes at commencement each year to recognize excellence among graduating concentrators. The first is given to the student who achieves the highest grade point average in history; the second to the student who submits the best honors essay in American history.

Recently the bequest of Ellen Monk Krattiger established a scholarship named in honor for her junior or senior concentrator who demonstrates conspicuous talent in a research paper on a topic in North American colonial history. The award will be given for the first time in 1986.

In addition to these awards for distinguished undergraduates, the department has received two endowed professorships. Since 1968 we have been privileged to appoint some of the most renowned scholars in North American and European history from institutions in this country and abroad as James Pinckney Harrison Visiting Professors. The widow and the son of Mr. Harrison, who was a leader in the Virginia tobacco industry, established the chair in his memory.

In 1979 the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company of Baltimore created a chair in American history in memory of the late president and chairman of the board of the company, William E. Pullen, who was a student at the College in the 1920s.

With the inauguration of the doctoral program in American history twenty years ago, heavy demands were placed on the history collection of the Earl Gregg Swem Library. A gift from Jay Winston Johns of Charlottesville, Virginia, in 1970 set up an endowment for the purchase of library materials in early American history. Mr. Johns was the past president of the Pittsburgh Coal Company. The income from his fund added to state allocations has enabled us to develop a collection of secondary works in the early American field that is among the best in the country.

For a number of years the Virginia chapter of the Order of the Cincinnati has contributed an annual scholarship for a graduate student doing research in early American history. In 1981 two other patriotic organizations, the National Society of Colonial Dames-XVII Century and the National Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, began a program of annual gifts for similar scholarships. Recently the Virginia James-town-Yorktown Foundation has annually underwritten an assistantship for a doctoral student. Each year the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation underwrites five apprenticeships in a program that it co-sponsors with the College in museum management, and the Archaeological Excavation and Conservation Department of Colonial Williamsburg contributes to apprenticeships in historical archaeology.

The variety of gifts is wide, reflecting the spectrum of the College’s offerings in history. The department — faculty and students — are most appreciative of the generosity of each of the donors. Their contributions make possible the something extra that helps to make a good program better.

John E. Selby

James Pinckney Harrison
Professors — Present, Past, and Future

Edgar Toppin, currently dean of the Graduate School and professor of history at Virginia State University, is the 1985-1986 Harrison Professor. Toppin has been on the faculty at Virginia State since 1964. His undergraduate course deals with “Blacks in American History” and his graduate seminar focuses on “Afro-American History.”

The Harrison Professor for 1984-1985 was Kenneth Bourne, professor of international history at the University of London. Bourne, a specialist on Palmerston, gave a series of three public lectures that were titled “The Education of Harry Temple: The Making of a Statesman,” “The Immoral One; Cupid Among the Whigs,” and “Policy and Principle: The Foreign Office.” His graduate seminar was concerned with “Anglo-American relations in North America, 1815-1914.” Undergraduates examined “The Foreign Policy of Victorian England, 1815-1914.”

Looking ahead to 1986-1987 and the celebration of the bicentennial of the United States Constitution, the department will welcome Forrest McDonald, currently professor of history at the University of Alabama, as Harrison Profes-
sor. McDonald has written extensively on the early years of the Republic and is the author of books on George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Alexander Hamilton. One of his most widely known works is *We the People: The Economic Origins of the Constitution*.

Edgar Teppin, James Pinckney Harrison Professor, 1985-1986.

**Commonwealth Visiting Professor of History**

The Department of History was pleased to host Robert Engs, of the University of Pennsylvania, as Commonwealth Visiting Professor of History in 1984-1985. Engs taught several courses including a two-semester introduction to Afro-American history.

**Grants and Awards**

Philip Funigiello was awarded a summer research grant in 1984 to study “American-Soviet Commercial Relations in the Cold War (1945-81): The Eisenhower Years.” Jim Axtell received a 1985 grant to examine “American Encounter: The Confluence of Cultures in Colonial North America.”

In the summer of 1985 Dale Hoak was awarded a University Fellowship Course/Instructor Development Grant and Jim McCord a University Fellowship Seminar Grant. These grants are funded jointly by NEH and the College.

Jim Axtell won an NEH Humanities Award for Teaching and Scholarship in May 1984 and an NEH Travel to Collections Grant in summer 1984. Phil Funigiello also won an NEH travel grant in 1984.

Brown University honored Thad Tate with a Graduate School Alumni Citation at the 1985 graduate school commencement.

Ismail Abdalla received a 1984 Alumni Award for outstanding teaching and service to the College and an award from NEH and the College for outstanding faculty members in 1984.

Judith Ewell was honored with a Merit Award from William and Mary and NEH in 1984. She received an NEH Summer Stipend in 1985 to do research on a regional history of Zulia, Venezuela, 1890-1960.

The Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission presented a Cultural Resources Management Grant for 1984-1985 to Jim Whittenburg.

**Participation**

Judith Ewell presented a paper on “The Caribbean and the Caribbean World in the Age of the Law of the Sea” at the Rocky Mountain Council of Latin American Studies in February 1984. Ewell chaired a panel on “Colonial Latin America” at the Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies in April 1984. She is currently president of that group and has been elected to the executive council of the Conference on Latin American History. She served as a commentator on a panel that discussed “Contemporary Peru” at the November 1984 meeting of the Midwestern Association of Latin American Studies. Her invited lecture, “Central America and the Caribbean,” was given at St. Mary’s College, Maryland, in April 1984 and at Virginia Commonwealth University in February 1985. Ewell participated in a ten-day tour of Nicaragua with a group of artists and filmmakers and teachers in January 1985, where she attended the inauguration of President Daniel Ortega. Ewell read a paper, “Barry in the Inner Circle: Jean Kirkpatrick,” at a joint meeting of the American Historical Association Pacific Coast Branch and the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations in June 1985.

Ed Crapol also presented a paper, “Lydia Maria Child: Abolitionist Critic of American Foreign Policy,” at the AHR Pacific Coast Branch and Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations joint meeting. He served as a commentator on “Mid-Nineteenth Century Expansion” at a meeting of the Society for Historians of Foreign Relations in August 1984.

“Searching for Anthelia: Reconstructing the Life of a Working Class Woman in Late Nineteenth Century Virginia” was the topic of a talk that Cam Walker gave to the chapter of Phi Alpha Theta at Mary Baldwin College in April 1984. Walker was a member of a workshop on “Interpreting the Humanities” sponsored by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation in June 1984. She participated in a panel discussion of the workshop at the annual meeting of the Association of American Colleges the following February.

Jim McCord’s invited paper “The House of Lords in the Age of Reform” was presented at the 1984 meeting of the Carolinas Symposium on British Studies.

John Selby participated in a seminar-lecture series, “The Reach of Reason: The Enlightenment of the 18th Century,” sponsored by Old Dominion University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1984. Selby’s address was titled “The American Revolution.”

Ismail Abdalla spoke on “Ibn Khalidun: A Humanist?” at the Southern Humanities Conference in 1985. He spent the summer of 1985 at the University of Florida where he participated in an institute funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the purpose of which was to teach high school teachers to teach African history within the context of world history.

George Strong read papers on “The Vienna Ringstrasse as Iconography: Socio-Political History and Bankkunst During the Era of Franz Joseph I of Austria” at the Forum on Social History, University of New Hampshire, and “The Austro-Polish or German-Polish Solution: The Great Debate as Viewed Through the Records Deposited in the Austrian State Archives” at the Duquesne History Forum in the fall of 1984.

Jim Axtell discussed “Black Legend: The Jesuit Missions in Maryland” at a conference on “Maryland: A Product of Two Worlds” and at a session of the American Society for Ethnohistory (1984). Axtell presented “The Indian in Amer-
American Environment in Historical Perspective:
An Alumni Bookshelf

Whatever personal position one holds regarding the exact dimensions of the ecological crisis of our own day, the "environmental movement," as we often term it, has become a major force in our lives. The expressions of concern for the fate of the Earth that have become characteristic of environmental advocates appear to mark a historically significant shift in our attitudes toward the natural world. Our older, deeply ingrained belief that progress has rested upon the dominance of human technology over the forces of nature has begun to give way to a counterproposition. Increasingly we now perceive the proper relationship between the human species and the natural world to involve an ongoing, complex, and delicately balanced interaction between two equivalent forces, human action and ecological processes, in which the resultant environmental impact is not a product exclusively of either.

For many environmentalists that new guiding principle becomes, above all else, a standard for regulating present and future conduct toward nature, and renders past history, rooted as it is in that older dominionist view of nature, somewhat irrelevant. Yet an emerging group of environmental historians has found that same principle a highly useful analytical tool, less for judging the past than for defining much more clearly than ever before the complicated relationships between people and their habitat throughout history. The best examples of their work, which often mesh such fields as history, anthropology, geography, and ecological science into a coherent whole, have both enriched our understanding of the past and provided an indispensable context for the contemporary environmental movement. Not surprisingly, a number of their books also provide stimulating reading.

Although environmental history should logically be worldwide in its focus, the American natural setting understandably holds a special interest for many of us. In fact, some of the best of the recent books have been those in American environmental history. The brief listing that follows, all except Richard White’s available in paperback, is only a sampling, but it includes several that I have found particularly interesting and influential, so much so that five of the seven appear on the reading list for a one-semester course that I now offer on the environmental history of the United States:

Keith Thomas, Man and the Natural World: A History of the Modern Sensibility (Pantheon Books). Although a study principally of changing attitudes toward nature in England from 1500 to 1800, it sets the stage for a comparable shift that occurs, perhaps a little more slowly, in America.

Alfred Crosby, The Columbian Exchange: The Biological Consequences of 1492 (Greenwood Press). Particularly appropriate as the Columbus quincentenary approaches, this work traces the long-range effects of biological interaction between the Old World and the New in ways that extend from the spread of new foods such as corn in the Old World to the devastating mortality brought about among native American peoples by the introduction of unfamiliar disease strains.


Richard White, Land Use, Environment, and Social Change: The Shaping of Island County, Washington (University of Washington Press). A model example of the measurement of something of the same intersection of human society and the natural setting that Cronon delineates, but in a more specific location and more modern era.

Donald Worster, Dust Bowl: The Southern Plains in the 1930s (Oxford University Press). Might be seen as a more penetrating and subtle Grapes of Wrath, with very broad implications for the practice of intensive mechanized agriculture on marginal lands.

John McPhee, Conversations with the Archdruid (Noonday Press). The one work on the list not by a historian, but a graphic and masterful account of conversations between the outspoken wilderness preservationist David Brower and three of his “natural enemies,” a mining engineer, a builder of water reclamation dams, and a coastal real estate developer.

Roderick Nash, Wilderness and the American Mind (Yale University Press, 3rd edition). An “add-on” to the original list both because it is the classic historical study of the American wilderness (with a very good bibliography for the whole of environmental history) and also because it fills an important gap in the list by its treatment of the seminal conservation movement of the Theodore Roosevelt era and the beginnings of organized environmental activity under John Muir and the early Sierra Club.

Thad Tate
Undergraduate Awards and Honors

In 1984 eight undergraduates earned departmental honors in history for the theses that they researched, wrote, and defended:

Michael J. Ard, "Randolph Bourne and the War," directed by Richard Sherman (Honors)
John Carbone, "Early Coastal Operations in North Carolina During the Civil War: A Study of Lost Opportunities," directed by Ludwell Johnson (High Honors)
David Hart, "The Politics of Strategy: East Tennessee, Political Influence and Union Operations in the Civil War, 1861-1863," directed by Ludwell Johnson (High Honors)
Donald G. Lucidi, "Roosevelt's Rough Riders in Politics and Legend," directed by Richard Sherman (Honors)
Elizabeth Singleton, "Maintenance of Political Order in York County, Virginia, 1774-1790," directed by Jim Whittenburg (Honors)
Thaddeus James Weaver, "Thomas Rodney's Revolution," directed by Thad Tate (High Honors)

The following students were awarded honors in 1985:
Margaret J. Berry, "The Labors of Sisyphus: Arms Control, 1950-1979," directed by Ed Crapol (International Relations) (Honors)
Tracy N. Gruis, "Planter's Plain Folk, and Those Who Were Neither: Wealth and Occupation in Prince Edward County, Virginia, 1850-1860," directed by Boyd Coyer (High Honors)
Amy Lynn Marschean, "Romance and Reality on the Mining Frontier: The Life of Mary Hallock Foote," directed by Cam Walker (High Honors)

The William Elbert Fraley Award is presented by the History Department to the senior who writes the best honors thesis of the year. In 1984 David E. Hart and John S. Carbone shared the cash prize that accompanies the Fraley Award. In 1985 the three recipients of the Fraley Award were Tracy N. Gruis, Amy Lynn Marschean, and Thaddeus James Weaver.

The Richard Lee Morton Award honors the history concentrator who combines character and potential with the highest scholastic average. Volkof Fabian Ruhnke and Donald G. Lucidi won the Morton Award in 1984. The 1985 recipients were Amy Lynn Marschean and Thaddeus James Weaver. The Morton Award also includes a cash stipend.


Phi Alpha Theta

The annual meeting of the Phi Alpha Theta chapters of Virginia was held at William and Mary in March 1985. Kenneth Bourne, professor of international history at the University of London, and Harrison Professor at the College, 1984-1985, gave the luncheon address. Among those presenting papers at the meeting were two William and Mary participants, Jon Stauff, "Edward II. Fiers Caveston, and the Baronial Opposition, 1307-12," and Janet Coryell, "A Woman's Grasp Exceeded: Women and the Transformation of Power."

Serving as Phi Alpha Theta officers in 1983-1984 were Steve Williams, president, Mike Puglisi, vice president, and Liz Singleton, secretary-treasurer. Officers in 1984-1985 were Amy Marschean, president, Mike Puglisi, vice president, Laurel Heneghan, secretary, and Catherine Patterson, treasurer.

News from the Director of Graduate Studies

During 1984-1985 the crew of in-residence graduate students in history numbered forty, eighteen at the doctoral level and twenty-two at the M.A. stage. In 1985-1986 we expect to enroll seventeen new Master's and six new Ph.D. students who, with twenty-four returning candidates, will swell the ranks to forty-seven.

In part, the continued growth of the graduate program in this department is a function of a better financial aid structure. The maximum Ph.D. award in 1985-1986 will be $6,000 plus tuition; at the M.A. level, it will be $4,600 plus tuition.

Equally important to the program have been our apprenticeships in historical archaeology, archives management, historical editing, and museum management. The historical archaeology track, in particular, has shown significant growth. In 1983-1984 we accepted four new M.A. apprentices in that track. Another five M.A.'s followed in 1984-1985, and next year there will be six new M.A. apprentices in historical archaeology. Four of the M.A. archaeologists admitted during the previous two years have gone on to the Ph.D. level here as interns, and two additional Ph.D.-level archaeology interns have come with M.A.'s from other institutions.

While we have enlarged the size of the graduate program, we have not sacrificed quality to numbers. The mean scores on the Graduate Record Examination for M.A. students entering in the fall of 1984 were 637 verbal and 551 quantitative; for those entering next fall, the scores averaged 622 verbal and 594 quantitative. At the Ph.D. level, students entering in 1984-1985 averaged 592 verbal and 519 quantitative. Those who will begin in the fall of 1985 averaged 623 verbal and 505 quantitative.

Since May 1983, Jim Lindgren, Carter Hudgins, Anne Chapman, Steve Siciliano, and Don Wenger have received their Ph.D.'s. The list of students who have earned the Master of Arts over that span of time is quite long: John Barden, Jeanne Whitney, Ron Colvin, Dick Brownell, Sarah Weatherwax, Linda Wentworth, Lisa Broberg, Susan Ockresceider, Mark Masaronarino, Kevin Bertelsen, Eileen Parris, Karen Stuart, Kevin Quinlan, Dru Dowdy, Marcie Cohen, Kathy Jones, Tom Wren, and Liza Fitzer Gusler. Several other students should complete their theses or dissertations during the next few months.

Ending on a personal note, Phil Funigiello will assume the position of director of the graduate program in history with the start of the fall semester. In many ways it has been a short four years, and I want to express my appreciation to every graduate student with whom I have had contact during that time. When you get to the bottom line, the graduate students make the program, and you have made ours one of which we can all be proud.

James P. Whittenburg
LIZA PITZER GUSLER (M.A., '85) is a teaching curator in the Department of Collections at Colonial Williamsburg.

NANCY HAGEDORN (Ph.D. candidate) is a curatorial fellow at the DeWitt Wallace Gallery of Colonial Williamsburg. She is working with the mechanical arts.

LEAHANNA HARDING (A.B., '82) earned the M.S. degree in mass communications at Virginia Commonwealth University in 1984. She is a text editor at the National Captioning Institute in Falls Church, Va.

WILLIAM D. HENDERSON (A.B., '59) is professor of history at Richard Bland College of the College of William and Mary and current president of the Richmond Civil War Round Table. He has written about the 12th Virginia Infantry of the Confederate Army, which fought at the battle of the Wilderness, the battle of the Crater, and during the siege of Petersburg.

LAURIE MCAVOY HISSEY (A.B., '82) currently employed by Pepsi-Cola in Philadelphia, traveled to Brussels and Paris in the fall of 1984. She reports that she reviewed her French Revolution and Napoleonic period books to get in the mood — and she also read The Hunchback of Notre Dame.

ROBERT V. HOLMES (A.B., '60) is a staff member in the personnel office of the Rhode Island Department of Mental Health. He lives in Foster, R.I., where he is on the school board.

CARTER HUDGINS (Ph.D., '84) is director of the Center for Preservation and associate professor of history at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va.

RON HURST (M.A., candidate) is curator of furniture in the Department of Collections at Colonial Williamsburg.

ALFREDA S. JAMES (A.B., '81) assistant to the Dean of Admissions, was recently appointed by Governor Charles S. Robb to the Statewide Student Recruitment Committee of the Virginia Plan Bi-racial Advisory and Consulting Committee.

DOUG KLEIN (A.B., '84) is attending the Marshall-Wythe School of Law but still finds time for both writing and politics.

NANCY M. KUCAN (A.B., '81) graduated from the Marshall-Wythe Law School in 1984. She is practicing in Harrisonburg, Va., with Bishop Dansby. Her husband, Mark Reed (A.B., '80), is a partner in the law firm of Will, Hennessy and Reed in Luray, Va.

RAY LANDIS (A.B., '83) is working for the Close-Up Foundation in Washington, D.C. He occasionally brings a group of high school students to Williamsburg.

MARTIN LECLERC (A.B., '78) has been named associate vice president, investments, by Dean Witter Reynolds. He is also the assistant manager of the Dean Witter/Sears metro center in McLean, Va. His duties include helping the manager look after the forty-two brokers and numerous support staff — making for at least a 60-hour week! Martin's wife, Cary Catharine Holladay, received her A.B. in English in 1980 from William and Mary, where they met. She works in the marketing department of the Washington bureau of U.S. News and World Report.

BETTY LEVNER (M.A., candidate) has been named associate curator of exhibition buildings by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Previously Betty served as a Wallace Gallery fellow for four years.

DON LUCIDI (A.B., '84) is at the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

AMY MARSCHEN (A.B., '85) is attending law school at the University of Virginia.

NATHANIEL "TURK" MCCLESKEY (Ph.D., candidate) has been awarded the first Jamestown Fellowship offered by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, a state historical organization. McCleskey will research questions directed to the foundation. He will also assist in a research project, possibly the publication of a book on Bartholomew Gosnold, captain of the second largest of the three ships that set sail for Jamestown, and Gosnold's role in the development of the settlement.

MIKE McCONNELL (Ph.D., '83) has been named assistant professor at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, where he is teaching American colonial history.

SALLY MCCWILLIAMS (A.B., '84) after working in the "real world" for a year as a secretary at the Smithsonian Institution has decided to opt for law school.

JACKSON METCALF (A.B., '76) is living and working at Odiyan, a Buddhist monastery in Marin County, California.

CLAUDIA MINER (M.A., '78) published "The 1886 Convention of the Knights of Labor" in Phylon (June 1983).

J. E. MORPURGO (A.B., '58, Hon. D.H.L., '70) has left the University of Leeds as emeritus professor of American Literature and has taken up residence in London, where he is consultant director to one of the largest tour operators in the English-speaking world. He has just finished a book on William Cobbett in America.

DEVIN MURPHY (A.B., '82) is planning to earn an MBA after working for Proctor and Gamble for several years.

SUSAN PATTERSON (M.A., '74) has been promoted to associate editor at the University of Illinois Press.

PEG POESCHL (M.A., candidate) who was employed as an archivist with the Russian Orthodox Church in New York City, recently married Stephen Siciliano (Ph.D., '84).

BRETT A. ROACH (A.B., '80) is the assistant to the registrar at Marymount College of Virginia. He is a candidate for the M.A. in history at George Washington University.

KEVIN CONLEY RUFFNER (A.B., '82) has been serving as a fire support team leader with an artillery battalion in Butzbach, Germany. He has published two articles, "'Cut!': A History of Movie Theaters in Alexandria, Virginia," in Northern Virginia Heritage, and "Jawans, Sahibs, and Firepower," on India's artillery, in the Field Artillery Journal.

VOLOK RUHNKE (A.B., '84) is doing graduate work at Georgetown University.

JEFFREY SCHEIB (M.A., '82) began work as an assistant historian with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, where he is principally engaged in writing and editing biographies of former members of the state legislature for a new biographical dictionary.

BILL SCOTT (A.B., '84) is attending law school at the University of Virginia.

STEPHEN SICILIANO (Ph.D., '84) is on the faculty at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. He was recently married to Peg Poeschl (M.A. candidate).

TIM SILVER (Ph.D., candidate) is an assistant professor at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. Tim has a tree in the middle of his log cabin — it's great for the study of ecology.

BILL SMITH (A.B., '77) is now assistant director of the Charleston, South Carolina, Development Board.

SUSAN STITT (M.A., '64) Director of the Museums at Stony Brook, was recently elected to Phi Beta Kappa by the Alpha Beta of New York Chapter at SUNY-Stony Brook. She is the first off-campus person to be chosen for honorary membership by that chapter.

TRACY TREATADUE (A.B. '75) is living in Atlanta with her lawyer husband, Jim Moncave. Tracy is the full-time mother of two girls.

JERRY VAN VOORHIS (A.B. '63) is rector of Chatham Hall. He recently offered a senior honors tutorial on "Technological Issues and National Security."

THAD WEAVER (A.B. '85) is attending law school at the University of Pennsylvania.

CAMILLE WELLS (Ph.D. candidate) has been awarded a dissertation fellowship by the American Association of University Women. More than 1,300 women applied for the fellowship program of the AAUW.

C. VAN WEST (Ph.D. '82) is research coordinator of the preservation program at Middle Tennessee State University, where he is also in the history department. Van was seen at the Minneapolis OAH meeting in April 1985 wearing a prominent — and impressive — Stelson.

MIKE WILDSIN (A.B. '72) is teaching in the Chesterfield County public school system.

STEVE WILLIAMS (A.B. '85) won a full tuition scholarship to Cornell University Law School.

DOUGLAS YARRINGTON (A.B. '82) is doing graduate work in Latin American studies at the University of Texas.

Please keep in touch! Send us your news and your current address and we'll send you the William and Mary Historian. Write: