

History Experiments Spring Up Over Country

Millions of American Vacationers See Historic Relics

By Associated Press

THIS year's million Americans will journey through time toward the era of their ancestors without ever getting out of reach of hot and cold running water.

This has been made possible by a whole series of living history experiments that have sprung up across the nation in the last quarter century.

It was just 25 years ago that John D. Rockefeller, Jr., told Dr. W. A. R. Goodwin to go ahead and have preliminary studies made for the restoration of Williamsburg, Va.

Today, with a half million visitors annually, a \$2,000,000 budget and 1,000 employees, Colonial Williamsburg is by far the most ambitious and best known of restorations in America.

But by no means is it the only one.

Williamsburg has paced the nation's enthusiasm, even if it has not invariably set the style, for historic town restoration projects. Two dozen major ones stand today in a score of states. New ones keep cropping up. As a result, the nation's interest in preservation of its past never was so high as now at a time when danger of destruction never was so apparent.

In general there are three classes of projects. Williamsburg almost in a class by itself, combines preservation of existing structures with re-building of those that have yielded to time, and with removal of modern buildings. The recon-

struction is done on the basis of research as extensive as possible.

In a more modest way, Valley Forge in Pennsylvania and New Salem in Illinois fall in this same category.

Preservation of Existing Structures

Second and most familiar type is the one in which the principal effort is preservation of existing structures, without any spectacular attempt to rebuild those that have crumbled away. This goes on in literally hundreds of cities and towns where mansions and public buildings and the birthplace of famous sons and daughters are on display.

But the towns in the living history category are the ones like Natchez, Miss., Charleston, S. C., and Virginia City, Nev., where preservation has been made a community project.

Finally there is the museum town—like Old Sturbridge, Mass., Shelburne, Vt., and Mystic, Conn.—where synthetic communities are created in the spirit of the past, without any pretense that they represent an actual early day development.

Other places where historic projects in one category or another are in being include: Columbia, Calif., Deerfield and Plymouth, Mass., Fort Harrod, Wv., Leesburg and Waterford, Va., Monroe and Richmondtown, N. Y., New Castle, Del., Newport, R. I., Tombstone, Ariz., Virginia City, Mont., Winston-Salem, N. C., and Harper's Ferry, W. Va.

All this planning and patching, hammering and hauling,

fund raising and tourist tempting could hardly go on without differences of opinion.

Newton B. Drury, director of the National Park Service which has a great number of the nation's monuments under its wing, cites the precept—"Better to preserve than to repair; better to repair than restore; better to restore than reconstruct."

Park Department's Recommendation

The park department, he adds, does not recommend the hypothetical or conjectural restoration of structures, or portions of structures that have long been destroyed.

Could he have had in mind such grand scale projects as Williamsburg where restoration of structures long destroyed is routine?

On the other side of the fence, G. Edwin Brumbaugh, who has restored the huts at Valley Forge and numerous other buildings in Pennsylvania, writes in the magazine "Antiques" about the technique of such reconstructions.

You must do painstaking research, he says, interview old timers, make investigations on the site, study general styles and techniques of the period, and employ the same materials and methods as were originally used.

The craze for historic preservation stems back more than 100 years. It was in 1850 that the State of New York started the boom by acquiring Washington's headquarters at Newburgh. Nine years later, a ladies' association bought Mount

Vernon. By 1895, about 20 historic buildings—ranging from Independence Hall in Philadelphia to a Nebraska log cabin—could be viewed by the public. By 1933 there were more than 400; today hundreds more.

Historic Buildings Are Magnets

Every historic building serves as a tourist magnet. Mount Vernon and Independence Hall, for instance, attract thousands annually. But with the arrival of the preserved or restored community, history really has become big business.

At Williamsburg a survey showed that 200,000 admission-paying tourists stayed two days on an average and spent \$15.

Eying that record, a Winston-Salem newspaper commented:

"Businessmen are convinced that in ignoring Old Salem we are overlooking a community asset of real importance—the tourist dollar is a fast dollar and passes through many hands."

In the same vein, a founder of the historic Charles Foundation has commented: "History is valuable not only in terms of building citizens but in terms of dollars."

Big time incomes such as these men have in mind indicate big time investments. Some \$25,000,000 has been poured into Colonial Williamsburg. Winston-Salem seeks \$2,500,000. Even Tombstone Ariz., has a goal of \$500,000.

Battalion Editorials

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1951

The Vicious Oil Circle . . .

THE OIL shortage in Europe caused by the break in Iranian production is being made up out of supplies on hand in the United States and Canada.

A statement by Bruce K. Brown, deputy petroleum administrator, said a number of

Being careful is less painful than being injured—and less expensive, too.

Who Outsmarted What Country?

SENATOR McMahon (D-Conn) said yesterday the U. S. should lose no time in thrusting more truth into the iron curtain crack made by Russian broadcasts of American friendship overtures.

The Senator made this noble statement after it was announced that the Moscow radio had broadcast the text of a "friendship resolution" passed by Congress.

"Now that we have cracked the Iron Curtain," continued the Senator, "We must keep at efforts to tell the Russian people the truth about what is going on in the world."

Well said, Senator. But we must not forget that the Russian mind is exceptionally clever when it comes to propaganda, and she sings a very soporific lullaby—one that tends to put the rest of the world to sleep—having pleasant dreams of a peaceful tomorrow. Too often this dream is turned into a nightmare as the deceived people awake to find that Russia has changed her mind about peace.

Joe Stalin once said, "We do not lament the hair of one who has been beheaded." Few people doubt that he intends to get the heads of all of us.

Fundamentally, America is a sentimental nation, but even Russia shouldn't expect us to fall for that peace melody—no matter how beautifully her propaganda bird may sing it.

The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions
"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published five times a week during the regular school year. During the summer terms, The Battalion is published four times a week, and during examination and vacation periods, twice a week. Days of publication are Monday through Friday for the regular school year, Tuesday through Friday during the summer terms, and Tuesday and Thursday during vacation and examination periods. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$5.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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Letters to The Editor

Editor, The Battalion:

In view of the lead story in Wednesday's Batt, we have some opinions that we would like for you to hear.

In the first place, it is our opinion that no student governing body has the right to dispose of dormitory Coke funds in any manner.

In the second place, we are of the opinion that it is not Democratic to make a whole group suffer for the failings of a minority, that is if they could be called failings.

This seemingly stupid idea of the student senate's appears to be of a Communistic nature, since we are of the opinion that everyone shares everything alike in a Communistic state.

We contend that it is not the basic idea of our present day society to account for the short comings of any minority group, therefore, why should we at A&M be held accountable for the short comings of any minority?

How many Aggies have been paid for injuries, or personal damages received as a result of drown-outs? As we understand it, these so-called TU students were enrolled in A&M and therefore cannot expect to have any special privileges bestowed upon them.

If these so-called TU students receive payment for their damages, then by virtue of our Democratic student government, every Aggie that has ever been drowned out has the right to receive payment for any damage that he might declare.

Just in case you have never been drowned out, we would like to furnish you with the standard operational procedure:

1. Find out why you needed the drown-out.
2. Find out specifically who drowned you out.
3. Furnish appropriate retaliation.

The foregoing procedure is standard here at A&M before shouting "Oh, I've been drowned out, pay me \$248!"

In closing, we would like to ask a question. Is it possible to impeach a student member?

- Ray Rushing '52
- Dick Litjestrund '52
- John H. Henry '51
- Roy M. Young, Grad.
- G. P. Pepper '54
- Charles Wilson '51
- Duwan E. Fagala '52
- Gerald C. Drew, Grad.
- Walter Davenport '52

Interpreting the News

Ike for Prexy Odds Are Tops

By J. M. ROBERTS, JR.
Associated Press News Analyst

THERE seems to be an increasing number of spots in New York and Washington where you can get odds that General Eisenhower is a willing if passive candidate for the Republican presidential nomination.

President Truman has made it plain Eisenhower is under no obligation to run. Some competent observers think Senator Taft's concentration and belief in the strength of the Middle West has left the way clear in the East for Eisenhower's popularity and the Dewey-supported Eisenhower campaign there.

Maybe Dewey

Some of these observers also think that if Eisenhower is finally deterred by his European job and his disinclination for political conflict, Governor Dewey will be prepared to offer as an Eastern substitute.

President Truman's public equanimity about the Eisenhower subject, his very willingness to discuss it, has created a deal of speculation. Some even theorize the

(Editor's note: The editorial staff of The Battalion has taken no decisive stand on this matter and only strict accounts of news details have been recorded thus far. After a thorough examination of all facts has been made, we will publish a round-up of the senate's plan for repaying the students, opposition to the payment, and our conclusion.

(We will answer your questions, however, and possibly help you see a few details which your letter shows you do not fully understand.

(Although we do not have a copy of the Student Senate constitution available at this moment, we do know that when the Coca-Cola machines were set up in the dormitories a few years ago, an agreement was made at that time for Senators in each dorm to be responsible for all "Coke" machine profits. This would give him the right to do with it as he sees fit, which has usually been to distribute the funds to companies in the dormitory, or in the case of non-military dormitories, place the money in the dorm fund.

(We will not question your attitude of whether or not a group should suffer for what a few has done. But we would like to point out that our present day society DOES have to account for the short comings of a minority group. The students of A&M are suffering now through the ill feelings those Texas students have because of the damages done to their property. They cannot blame any one individual, so they must blame a group, and you and I and all of us are rightfully held accountable because we are a member of the group from which a minority did the actual drowning-out.

(The Dean of Men's Office has cited several cases where students have paid for damages incurred as a result of drown-outs among themselves in the dormitories.

(The TU geologists are not A&M students and they are not registered at A&M. They merely live in A&M dormitories and pay only for their housing here. They are taught by University of Texas-paid professors, and use that school's facilities in their training.

(We believe your three point plan for drown-out SOP can't be classed to this instance. In the first place, the number one question can be answered with the fact that some students here liked to exercise that age-old rivalry between A&M and TU by doing this

(But don't you think that if the TU students and the college officials knew who did it they would, as you say, retaliate and collect from them. But as long as those guilty students stay in the background and do not make themselves known, the blame for the incident rests on the shoulders of

the entire student body, whether you were to blame or not.

(According to information we have been able to obtain, there is a provision that states that students may recall a Senator which they have elected.

(We would like to say, however, that every dormitory that does not have a Senator here this Summer

had an equal chance for representation at the meeting and a chance for helping to decide the outcome of disposing of these funds for paying the TU students. All house-

masters in dormitories were supposed to have been notified of the meeting held Tuesday night — if there was no Senator in their dorm.

(Was your housemaster there?)

SAVE MONEY FOODS

GROCERIES	MARKET
3 POUND CAN Crisco 95c	DECKER'S TALL KORN Sliced Bacon lb. 46c
2—No. 2 Cans—Moon Rose Whole Green Beans . . . 37c	ARMOUR'S STAR Cooked Picnics . . . lb. 53c
2—12-OZ. CANS NIBLETS Mexi-Corn 37c	PEN FED BABY BEEF Loin Steak lb. 89c
3—300 SIZE DIAMOND Pork & Beans 25c	PORTER HOUSE Steak lb. 79c
DIAMOND—DILL OR SOUR Pickles quart 27c	Ham Hecks lb. 25c
IMPERIAL CROWN—QUART SIZE Green Olives 75c	GOOD HOPE—COLORED Oleo lb. 25c
WEAR EVER—25 FT. ROLL Aluminum Foil 35c	ARMOUR'S RI-CHEDDAR Cheese . . . 2 lb. carton 89c
2—NO. 2 CANS LIBBY'S Tomato Juice 29c	PRODUCE
46-OZ. CAN DOLES Pineapple Juice 33c	LARGE CUBAN Avocados 2 for 25c
2—303 CANS MUSSELMAN'S Apple Sauce 33c	WHITE SEEDLESS—OR Red Grapes lb. 15c
2—NO. 2 CANS CRYSTAL Pie Cherries 47c	U. S. NO. 1 YELLOW Onions lb. 5c
3 POUND CARTON MRS. TUCKER'S Shortening 83c	U. S. NO. 1 New Potatoes . . . 5 lbs. 23c
	GOLDEN RIFE Bananas 2 lbs. 25c

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By Al Capp

