

Carlyle Connection

"It's a fine begin-



Evidence Suggests John Carlyle Owned John Warner's Map: *A Survey of The Northern Neck of Virginia*

Jim Bartlinski

Located in the pier between the two windows of Colonel John Carlyle's study hangs a reproduction of the 1745 edition of cartographer John Warner's *A SURVEY of the NORTHERN NECK of VIRGINIA, being the LANDS belonging to the R^t. Honourable THOMAS LORD FAIRFAX BARON CAMERON, bounded by & within the Bay of Chesapoyocke and between the Rivers Rappahannock and Potowmack: With The Courses of the Rivers RAPPAHANNOCK and POTOWMACK, in VIRGINIA, as surveyed according to Order in the Years 1736 & 1737.*

Warner had been commissioned by Thomas, the sixth Lord Fairfax, Carlyle's relation by marriage, to produce a map as testament to his rightful proprietorship of Virginia's Northern Neck. For more than forty years after the death of Lord Culpeper (the father of the fifth Lord Fairfax's wife Catherine) in 1689, there had been long and bitter litigation over whether the Fairfaxes held legitimate title to the five million plus acres that made up the Northern Neck. Their son, Thomas, the sixth Lord Fairfax, continued the fight and finally solidified his family's claim over their vast Virginia holdings in the mid 1730s. About 1735, his lordship made a visit to Virginia and contracted Warner to survey the Northern Neck and create a map of his proprietorship.

Evidence has recently been discovered that suggests

Colonel Carlyle owned a copy of John Warner's map of Lord Fairfax's Northern Neck domain. The November 13, 1780 probate inventory of Carlyle's Alexandria estate indicates that at the time of

his death he was in possession of "16 large & Small Maps." Of these sixteen maps, Warner's survey of the Northern Neck was surely among those that Colonel John Carlyle possessed. Evidence of this possibility exists in an August 15, 1755 letter that the thirty-five year old Carlyle wrote to his older brother Doctor George Carlyle in England. This letter concerns such topics as the younger Carlyle's reaction to "the Affecting news of the Death of our Dr Mother;" his father-in-law

Colonel William Fairfax's desire for Doctor Carlyle to look after "his Youngest Son Mr. William [Henry Fairfax] ... at Wakefield at Heath Schoole;" as well

as his own ill health and that of his first wife, Sarah Fairfax Carlyle. Carlyle also writes his brother of joyful news, like the birth of the couple's second son, George Fairfax Carlyle named "After You & My Wifes oldest Brother" George William Fairfax. However, the lion's share of this correspondence recounts the details surrounding Major-General Edward Braddock's boorish behavior while at Carlyle's Alexandria home, the "Grandest Congress," and the General's disastrous defeat at the Battle of the Monongahela on July 9, 1755.



A Survey of the Northern Neck of Virginia
John Warner, 1745
Carlyle House Historic Park



Above is a close-up of a section from the 1747 edition of *A Survey of the Northern Neck of Virginia*. On this version of Warner's map, now in the collections of the Library of Congress, someone has drawn in and labeled a symbol for Fort Cumberland near the Shanno Indian Fields in the approximate location where Carlyle told his older brother George to look on his map in their August 15, 1755 correspondence.

When writing of General Braddock's ill-fated campaign, Carlyle refers his brother to the "Small map" of Lord Fairfax's, "Northern Neck." The younger Carlyle instructs his older sibling to locate on the map "a place Called Shawnee [Shanno] Indian Fields Depicted In the Small map that you have of Lord Fairfax, Northern Neck) and near the head of the Potowmack & About 100 Miles from hence." The "Shanno" Indian Fields, as the location is referred to on John Warner's Northern Neck survey, are located at the top northwest portion of the map near the Alleghany Mountains situated between the Potomac River and Wills Creek on Maryland's western frontier. The western most Shawno Indian Fields (there is another on the map but a little further east) is the location of Fort Cumberland, constructed on the site of a former Shawnee Indian settlement. Fort Cumberland began as a supply depot for the Ohio Company and was

enlarged by Braddock in the spring of 1755, to be used as the final staging point for his assault on Fort Duquesne. In May 1755 an ambitious 23-year-old George Washington marched out from Fort Cumberland with Braddock on a forty-two day trek to Fort Duquesne, where both men met their separate destinies at the Monongahela.

Warner's map serves not only as an interpretive tool that illustrates Carlyle's status as a landed and enlightened Virginia gentleman with marital ties to the influential Fairfax family, but also as a tangible link to Braddock's ill-fated campaign. Likewise, the map is an interpretive vehicle that connects two brothers separated by an ocean to historical events of global significance. Moreover, Carlyle telling his brother to reference Warner's map of the Northern Neck indicates that both brothers were familiar with the map and most likely owned it. This revelation puts the museum one step closer to accurately interpreting the furnishings and sundry other items owned by Colonel Carlyle during his life at his Alexandria estate.

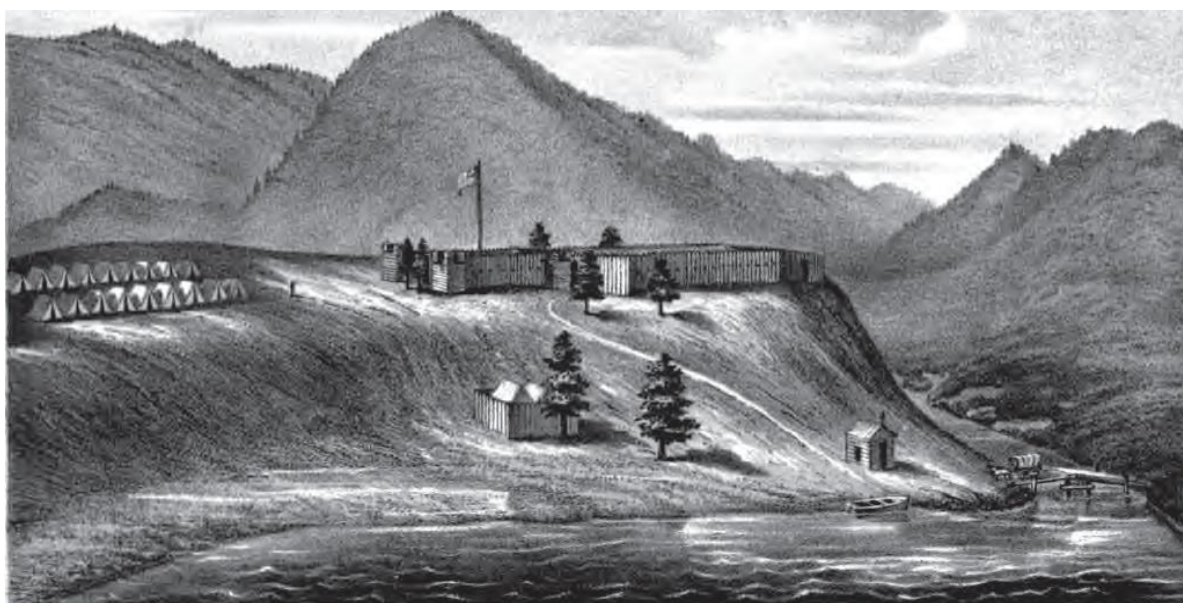
Selected Bibliography

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Degrees of Latitude: Mapping Colonial America.

Margaret Beck Pritchard and Henry G Taliaferro; The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in association with Harry N. Abrams, Inc.: New York, NY, 2002. pp. 146-149

George Washington, a Biography; by Douglas Southhall Freeman; New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1948, Volume 1, Appendix I-1, pp. 447-513



FORT CUMBERLAND 1755

Photo reproduced from "History of Cumberland, Maryland" by William Lowdermilk 1878.

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Carlyle House Historic, built in 1752, was the home of merchant and town founder John Carlyle. Today, the museum interprets colonial life through tours, events and educational programs.

Visit your other regional parks at www.nvrpa.org!

Information

Location:
121 North Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA, 22314

Carlyle House Historic Park

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Carlyle House Historic Park http://www.nvrpa.org/calendar_events.php?eid=942



John Carlyle's Birthday

Time: 12:00PM Saturday, February 6th

3 hours ago · [RSVP to this event](#)



Carlyle House Historic Park



Carlyle House to Be Part of the New Star-Spangled Banner Geotrail

Carlyle House Historic Park is pleased to announce a partnership with the National Park Service's Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, Geocaching.com, and Alexandria as the City's official geocache site for the new Star-Spangled Banner GeoTrail (www.nps.gov/stsp/index.htm), slated to ope...

In the past, the Carlyle House has kept you updated on the museum through our quarterly Friends newsletter and web site at www.nvrpa.org. Now you can get up to the minute information about the museum on Facebook. By becoming a “fan” of Carlyle House Historic Park, you will keep current with our upcoming programs, exhibits, new research, acquisitions, etc. What's more, you will have the ability to connect with people like yourself who are interested in the museum and its mission. Carlyle House currently has 153 fans. By the end of 2010, we hope to have over 200 fans. Help us reach our goal and become a fan today! Also, send your email address to scoster@nvrpa.org to receive periodic updates on our events.

Facebook helps you connect and share with the people in your life.



Sign Up

It's free and anyone can join

First Name:

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Why do I need to provide this?

Carlyle House to Be Part of the Star-Spangled Banner Geotrail

Carlyle House is pleased to announce a partnership with the National Park Service's Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, Geocaching.com, and Alexandria as the City's official geocache site for the new Star-Spangled Banner (SSB) GeoTrail (www.nps.gov/stsp/index.htm), slated to begin on March 1.

Geocaching (pronounced geo-caching) is a worldwide high-tech treasure hunting game, played throughout the world with the use of GPS devices. The basic idea is to locate hidden containers (called geocaches) outdoors, and then share your experiences online. Once you

have found a geocache, you must sign the logbook in the container and return the geocache to its original location. Afterwards, share your geocaching stories and photos online at www.geocaching.com.

The SSB GeoTrail commemorates the dramatic chain of events, people and places that led to the birth of our National Anthem. The story of the Anthem was shaped by events in the Chesapeake region during the War of 1812. From early 1813 until early 1815, the Chesapeake Bay and surrounding shores were the center of fierce struggles between Great Britain and the United States. From the burning of the White House to the surrender and occupation of Alexandria and the Battle for Baltimore and "the rockets' red glare" at Fort McHenry, it's all here for the geocaching community to enjoy in the Chesapeake region.

Carlyle House is connected to the War of 1812, not only as the result of Alexandria's occupation by His Majesty's Royal Navy in August 1814, but also through Colonel John Carlyle's thirty-six year old grandson, namesake, and heir: John Carlyle Herbert. It was the result of his uncle George William Carlyle's untimely death at the Battle of Eutaw Springs in 1781 that Herbert inherited his grandfather's Alexandria estate. Herbert took part in the ill-fated Battle of Bladensburg (August 24, 1814), serving as captain of the Bladensburg Troop of Horse. In addition to Herbert's service during the war, his parents William and Sarah (John Carlyle's daughter) lived at Carlyle House during the conflict and were

witnesses to the town's capitulation and occupation by the British. William Herbert also served on the committee that surrendered Alexandria to Captain Gordon of the Royal Navy.

The elder Herbert had been appointed by Alexandria's mayor, Charles Simms, to serve on the town's Committee of Vigilance in July 1814. The purpose of the committee was to procure information of the approaches of the enemy, as well as to obtain assistance and advice from the Federal government regarding which measures might be proper to pursue for the protection and defense of Alexandria. William's brother Thomas Herbert served concurrently as president of Alexandria's Common Council and the town's Committee of Vigilance.

In addition to the Carlyle House, the SSB GeoTrail will feature 30 - 35 sites throughout Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia. While some details are still being worked out, the incentive for finding a given number of geocache sites (perhaps 20) on the GeoTrail will be a newly-minted "trackable" geocoin, commemorating the story of Our National Anthem. For more information contact Curator of Education, Heather Dunn, at hdunn@nvrpa.org. Happy hunting!



Alexandria Honors Friends President Rosalind Bovey

Rosalind Bovey is among twelve individuals who have been named 2009's *Living Legends of Alexandria*. Created in 2006, *Living Legends of Alexandria* is an ongoing, not-for-profit photo-journalism project, which identifies, honors, and chronicles Alexandria's citizens. *Living Legends* recognizes individuals who have contributed at least one tangible improvement to the quality of the City's life that would likely be missing without that person's vision and energy, and those who have demonstrated long-term service to Alexandria, especially through work on commissions, committees and service organizations.

Rosalind has been active in Alexandria civic affairs for more than 30 years and has devoted her time to chronicling, preserving, and protecting the City's historic fabric. Not only is Rosalind the

president of the *Friends of Carlyle House*, she has also served as president of the *North Ridge Citizen's Association* and chaired *Agenda: Alexandria*.

Rosalind and the other eleven nominees were honored at a reception on February 7 at the Lyceum.

In April 2009, Rosalind was honored by the *Alexandria Historical Society* and the *Office of Historic Alexandria*, for her contributions to the preservation of the historic, cultural, and artistic heritage of Alexandria.

Congratulations, Rosalind!

News From the Curator

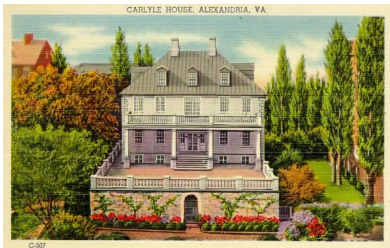
Sarah Coster

February will be a busy and exciting month in the Curatorial Department at Carlyle House. I was awarded a Young Professionals Scholarship to attend the 62nd Colonial Williamsburg Antiques Forum. The Forum, "Well Made and Exceeding Fine": The Decorative Arts of New England will take place February 7-11 in Williamsburg, VA. While in Williamsburg, I will be hearing and networking with the top curators, collectors and historians in the field.

Later in the month, I will be speaking at the Small Museums of America (SMA) Conference in Ocean City, MD. SMA's mission is to develop and maintain a peer network among people who work for small museums, giving them opportunities to learn, share knowledge and support one another. I will be co-presenting with Karen Daly, the Director of Dumbarton House. Their presentation is entitled "Thinking Outside the Glass Case: Cheap and Easy Historic House Museum Exhibits." I will be sharing my experience with the "Sewn Together" exhibit.

Carlyle House Antique Postcard Collection is Now Being Cataloged and Stored

Curatorial Assistant, Lacey Villiva, has been busy cataloging and storing our postcard collection. The postcards range from the early 1900s to the 1970s. Many provide wonderful insight into the past, including one of the garden from c. 1910 which says "You won't believe I'm here." The postcards are also an important reminder that Carlyle



House was a tourist destination long before its restoration in the 1970s. Extra vintage postcards that aren't being accessioned are available in the gift shop for a small donation.

Winter Dining Table a Success!

Thanks to the work of volunteers Carole Smith and Janice Magnuson and the Carlyle staff, our winter dining table was a huge success this year. We depicted a second course for an elaborate dinner party, similar to those that would have occurred frequently over the 12 days of Christmas. The scenario gave us a chance to show off our blue and white Chinese export porcelain, which dates to the 1760s. The highlight of the table was a large "coffin pastry" topped with a tiny pastry bird. These pastries were large pies with a meat filling topped with a decorative, but inedible, pie crust.

News From the Curator of Education — *Heather Dunn*

As I look forward to the spring weather, many things are happening in the education department at Carlyle House. I adapted two different school programs, History in a Haversack and Discovery Through Trash, to fit requirements for Tiger Cubs and Bear Cubs. First and second grade Boy Scouts use these programs to compare family life in the 18th century to family life today. So far we have had 2 Boy Scout groups, several interested parties, and 2 more reservations. Friends board member John Komoroske is helping me to develop an orienteering activity that may soon be available for families to do in our garden, once the weather is warmer!



Spring Docent Training is also coming up! **March 2nd at 10am** Sarah Coster and I are hosting a **Prospective Docent Coffee Hour**. If you or any friends you know think they might be interested in docenting, please stop by! Spring training dates are as follows: March 9th at 10am: Director Jim Bartlinski's Site Overview Lecture; March 16th at 10am: Curator Sarah Coster's Curatorial Tour; and March 23rd at 10am: Curator of Education Heather Dunn's Tour Technique's Workshop. Please feel free to contact me if you or a friend have any questions. We would love to add new faces to our docent family!



Upcoming Events Carlyle House

Tuesday, March 2 Time: 10 am
Prospective Volunteer Welcome Event
Free

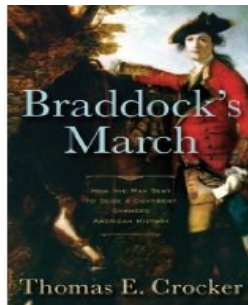
Do you love history? Have you been looking for a fulfilling and fun volunteer opportunity? Carlyle House is recruiting weekday volunteers! Join us on Tuesday March 2nd at 10am for a prospective volunteer preview event. Enjoy a tour with the curator and coffee and chat with current docents. Interested volunteers can sign up for our three required training sessions on March 9th, 16th, and 23rd- all at 10 am.

*
*  **Saturday, March 6 Time: 2 to 4pm**
Herbert Irish Heritage Program
\$Admission

Celebrate the Irish heritage of John Carlyle's son-in-law, William Herbert. Enjoy Irish music, dancing, and other entertainments of the late 1790s. The program takes place immediately following Alexandria's annual *Saint Patrick's Day Parade*.

Wednesday, March 24 Time: 7:30 pm
Alexandria Historical Society
Braddock Lecture at the Lyceum
Free

Lecture by Tom Crocker, author of *Braddock's March: How the Man Sent to Seize a Continent Changed American History*.



French & Indian War Re-enactment
Sunday, April 10 Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
\$Admission



Major General Edward Braddock convened a meeting of five colonial governors at John Carlyle's home. Carlyle called this gathering "*the Grandest Congress ... ever known on the Continent.*"

Friends of Carlyle House
10th Annual Herb and Wildflower Sale
Saturday April 17
8a.m.-4p.m.

The Friends of Carlyle House Garden Day Herb and Wildflower sale will feature both culinary and decorative herbs from the Mount Vernon Greenhouses. Visit a variety of vendors to purchase handcrafted garden items, jewelry and more.



The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia will host a Plant Clinic. Live entertainment and children's activities will be presented throughout the day. The event will also feature a Bake Sale and a 10% discount on all garden related items available in the Museum Shop.

We Need You! Volunteer Docent Recruitment



The museum is currently in the process of recruiting more docents. We particularly have a need for weekday docents (Tuesday-Friday). If you or someone you know is interested in this exciting opportunity and want to learn how to become a weekday or weekend docent, come to our Prospective Volunteer

Welcome Event and Curator Tour on Tuesday, March 2nd at 10am. You may also email the museum's Curator of Education, Heather Dunn, at hdunn@nvrpa.org or call her at 703-549-2997 for more details.

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Carlyle House is
accredited by the
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From the Director – Jim Bartlinski

2009 Annual Appeal Brings In Over \$18,000

A special thank you goes out to all the generous members of the Friends who contributed to this past year's annual appeal. Your contributions of \$25, \$50, \$100 and more have made it possible for us to exceed our fundraising goal of \$16,000 by over \$2,000! The \$18,020 donated by the Friends will be used to purchase important items for the museum.

In the mid-1990s, Carlyle House broke new ground in the interpretation of African American history in a historic house museum setting with the landmark exhibit, Don't Get Weary: Enslaved African Americans in Eighteenth-Century Alexandria, Virginia. Since that time, the museum has continued to develop and present interpretive programs that give life to the nine enslaved persons recorded on Colonel Carlyle's 1780 probate inventory of his Alexandria home. Many of the mannequins used in the Don't Get Weary exhibit, and in the interpretive and school programs derived from that exhibit, are showing their age. In order for the museum to continue interpreting the African American experience at Carlyle House, we will use part of the money donated through the annual appeal to purchase new mannequins to replace those no longer suitable for exhibition.

The monies raised by the annual appeal will also help bring to life the musical education the Carlyle children would have received. In addition to the reproduction spinet acquired by the museum in 2008, Colonel Carlyle's 1780 inventory lists "2 old Trumpets and french horn." Thus, we will use annual appeal funds to purchase playable reproductions of these instruments. These musical instruments will help showcase the "enlightened" education the Colonel's children received, as well as opportunities to have musical programs centered around the music that we know was played here in Carlyle's home.

Thank you again for supporting our efforts to interpret John Carlyle's home with the greatest accuracy for the enjoyment and education of our visitors.

A Special Thank You

In response to the annual appeal, the museum received a truly generous bequest of \$10,000 from Mr. Robert Barr in memory of his late wife Mrs. Helen Barr. Former Carlyle House Director Mary Ruth Coleman fondly remembers Mrs. Barr's dedication to the museum that spanned twenty-two years. Ms. Coleman writes: "*Helen Barr was one of those unique people whom you like and respect immediately. She had a certain old world charm that fit in perfectly at Carlyle House. Always a dedicated and knowledgeable docent, Helen's tours were among the best of the best. She gave consistently enthusiastic and professional tours. Besides serving as a loyal weekday docent, Helen (and Bob) could be counted on to participate in all the museum's activities and programs. Every holiday season for over twenty years, Bob would be found standing at the front door during Candlelight Tours welcoming visitors while Helen gave tours. Growing up in Switzerland and playing the game Nine Men's Morris as a child gave Helen a special 'claim to fame' that made her the Carlyle Champion-no one could beat Mrs. Barr on Colonial Game Nights! Helen was one of my favorite docents and she was well loved by the staff and her fellow volunteers.*" This latest gift in memory of Helen Barr will be used carefully by the staff to ensure that the legacy of Mrs. Barr, and the many fine docents like her, will endure.

Carlyle House Historic Park

A property of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority

121 North Fairfax Street ~ Alexandria, Virginia 22314

www.nvrpa.org



Northern Virginia
Regional Park Authority