



Historic Christ Church & MUSEUM

FIELD TRIP GUIDE

NAME

christchurch1735.org



HISTORY

Christ Church was completed in 1735, when George Washington was only three years old. It is one of the most important buildings ever constructed in America. The church has a **cross-plan** design, meaning it is shaped like a cross. Its style of architecture is **Georgian**. About **500,000 bricks** were used in its construction. They were fired in large **kilns** set up near the churchyard. **Slaves, indentured servants**, and other skilled craftsmen all worked to build Christ Church. **Robert Carter** gave money in his **will** to pay for the church.

When Christ Church was built, Virginia was still a **colony of England**. The **Anglican Church**, or Church of England, was the official religion in Virginia. People living in areas around Christ Church were considered part of its **parish**. They were required to attend church at least once every month. If they did not, the **churchwarden**, a man who enforced church laws and cared for the church, could present them to the **county court**, where they could be fined or whipped.



A group of twelve men known as the **vestry** governed Christ Church. The vestry hired the **minister**, or **parson** as he was also known; made repairs to the church; oversaw the marking of property lines; and helped the parish's poor and orphaned. With the local **sheriff**, the vestry collected parish **taxes**. **Parishioners** paid their taxes in **tobacco notes**. Tobacco was a **cash crop** in the colony; it was grown to sell for money. The minister earned 16,000 pounds of tobacco a year and had rights to a farm and house on the parish **glebe** lands. A **sexton** cleaned the church and maintained its grounds.

Sundays were an important day in colonial Virginia. People from all areas of the parish came together in the churchyard. They discussed things like tobacco prices and the latest **manufactured goods** that had been shipped in, or **imported**, from England. During the service, the **clerk**, who sat in the first level of the **pulpit**, read announcements for the parish community. Sometimes he read laws passed by the **General Assembly** or **proclamations** from the **governor**. After church, wealthy **planters** known as the **gentry** would invite people to their **plantations** for dinner.



QUESTIONS:

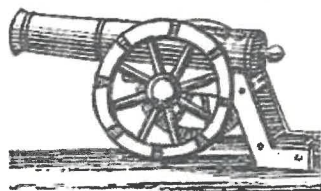
1. What is the architectural style of Christ Church? _____
2. About how many bricks did it take to build Christ Church? _____
3. When Christ Church was completed, Virginia was a colony of what country? _____
4. Where could you be taken if you failed to attend church? _____
5. Name two of the vestry's jobs: _____
6. What did colonial Virginians use to pay their taxes? _____
7. What did colonists import from England? _____
8. Who read parish announcements from the pulpit? _____



TIMELINE OF VIRGINIA HISTORY

The completion of Christ Church in 1735 was just one of many important events in colonial Virginia. Listed in the right-hand column are some other significant events in the colony's history. Draw a line from the year on the left to match it with the event on the right.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1607 | Robert Carter born |
| 1619 | French and Indian War |
| 1663 | English settle Jamestown |
| 1699 | American Revolution begins |
| 1732 | Christ Church completed |
| 1735 | Capital of Virginia moved to Williamsburg |
| 1754-1763 | George Washington born |
| 1775 | House of Burgesses first meets
First Africans arrive in colony |



Look at the bricks below. Each brick on the left, a **header**, has a date in it. Each brick on the right, a **stretcher**, is empty. Put the events listed above in order in the stretcher bricks below.

DID YOU KNOW?

Robert Carter died the same year George Washington was born. What year was that?

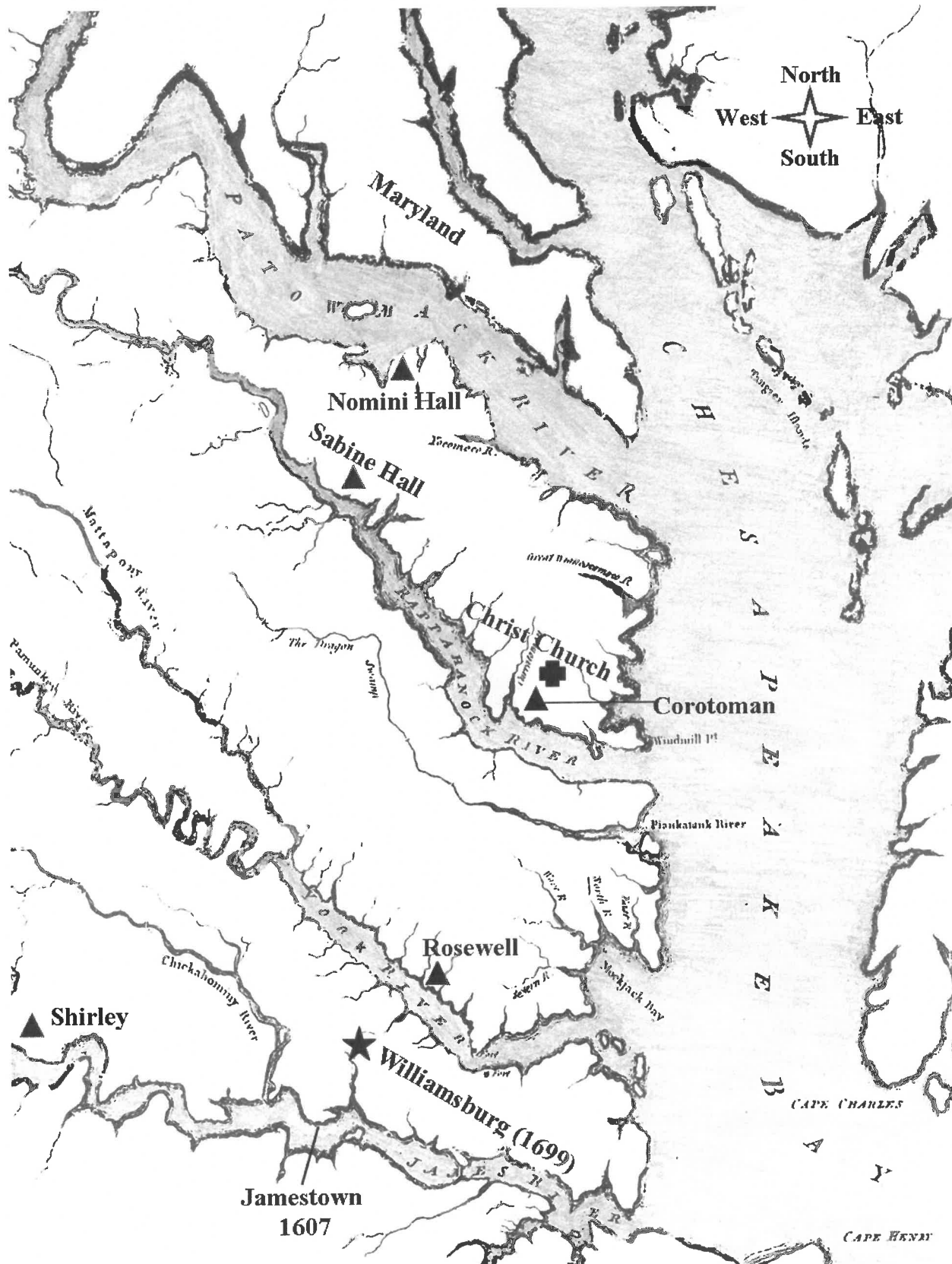
DID YOU KNOW?

Christ Church was begun in 1730. How many years did it take to build?



1607	
1619	
1663	
1699	
1732	
1735	
1754-1763	
1775	





KEY:



Capital



Plantation



Church



MAP SKILLS

The map on the opposite page is based on a map made in 1751 by Thomas Jefferson's father, Peter Jefferson. It shows the eastern region of Virginia, which is known as the **Tidewater**. Use this map to answer the questions below.

1. Locate the four main rivers of the Tidewater region.

What river is the farthest north? _____

How do we spell this river today? _____

What river is the farthest south? _____

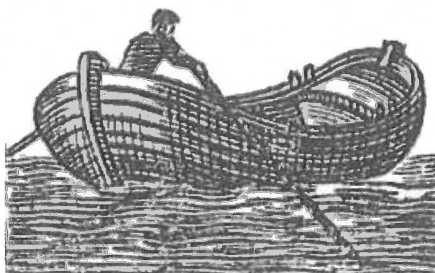
What site on this river did the English settle in 1607? _____



2. Find Christ Church on the map and **circle it**. Christ Church is located on a peninsula called the **Northern Neck**. A peninsula is a body of land surrounded on three sides by water. Name the three bodies of water which form the Northern Neck.

3. Which two plantations on the Northern Neck are closest to each other?

4. Robert Carter lived on a plantation located just south of Christ Church. What was this plantation called?



5. Williamsburg, which became the capital of Virginia in 1699, is also located on a peninsula formed by two rivers and the Chesapeake Bay. Name the two rivers.

6. When Robert Carter traveled to the capital at Williamsburg, he often stopped at Rosewell, his son-in-law's plantation on the York River, and then took a small boat over to Williamsburg. **Draw the route by water** Carter would have taken to get to Rosewell and then Williamsburg.

7. Robert Carter's son John lived at Shirley Plantation. Is Shirley east or west of Williamsburg?

8. If Carter had traveled north across the "Patowmack" River, in what colony would he have been?



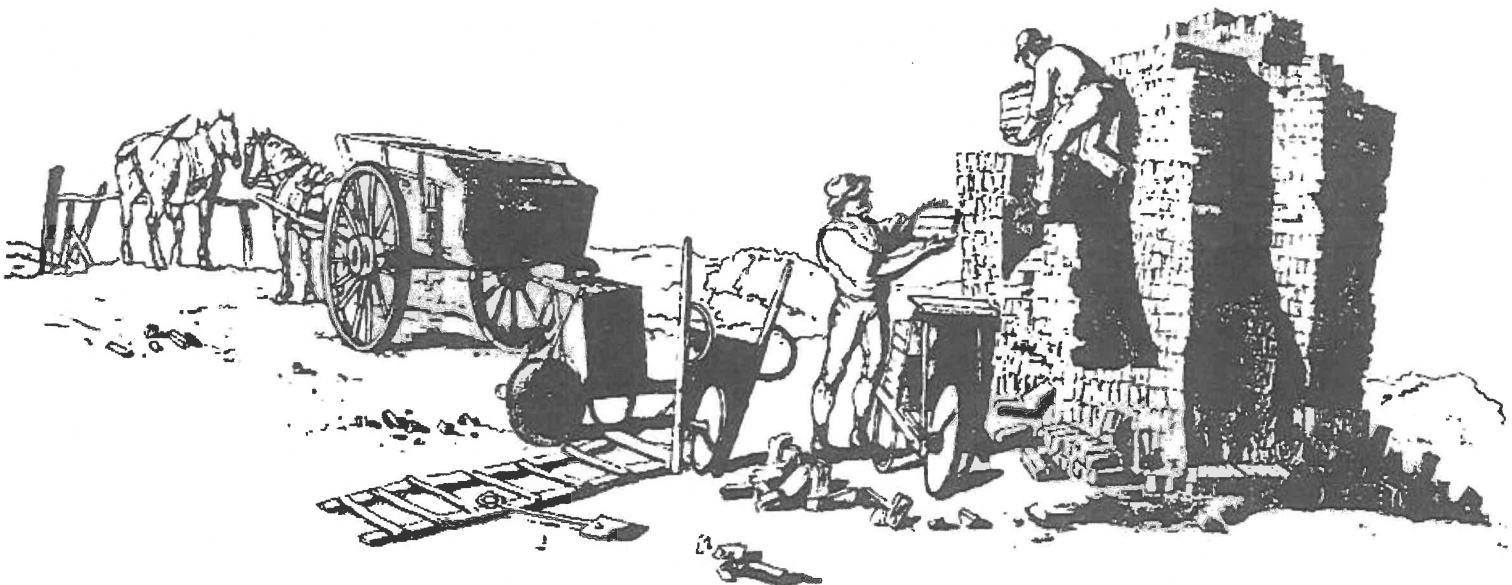
BRICKMAKING

One of the most important jobs in building Christ Church was brickmaking. **Brickmakers** produced about **500,000** bricks to construct the church. Because transporting bricks great distances was both expensive and labor intensive, brickmakers in colonial Virginia usually made their bricks close to the building site. At Christ Church, the bricks were made in a **brickyard** just south of the church.



The first step in making bricks was finding good **clay**. After selecting and digging the clay, brickmakers chopped up the large chunks and removed any unwanted materials, such as small stones. They then mixed the clay with sand and water in a process called **tempering**. Once mixed well, **temperers** loaded the clay onto **molding tables** and kneaded it like dough to prepare it for molding. **Molders** shaped the clay in wooden molds which were lined with **sand** to prevent the clay from sticking. The molder used a straight-edged stick to scrape the excess clay from the top of the mold in what was known as **striking**.

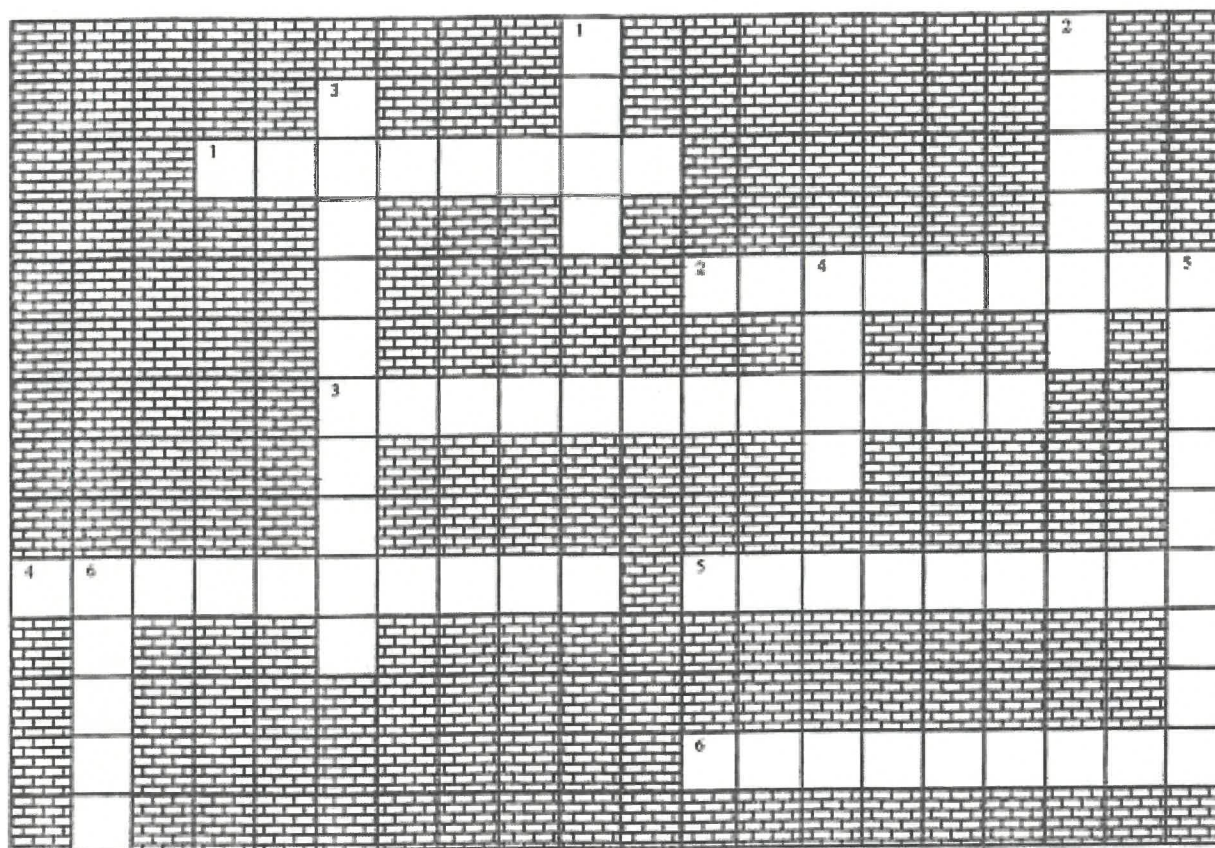
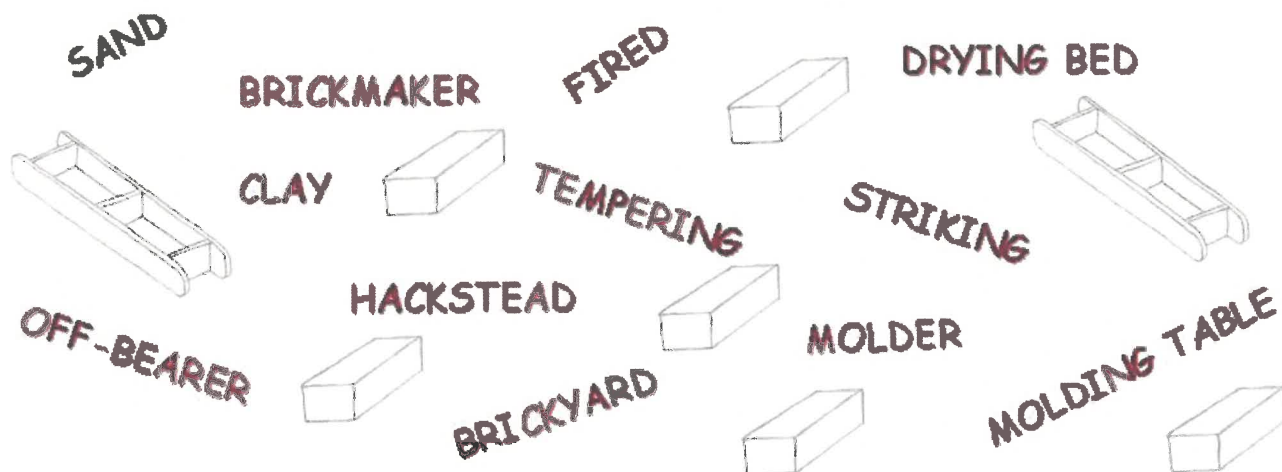
A person called the **off-bearer** then carried the mold to a **drying bed** and gently lifted it to release the bricks. The bricks would dry for several days on the beds. They would then be transferred and stacked in a **hackstead** to dry for two to three more weeks. After drying, the bricks were placed in **kilns** and burned or **fired** from four to seven days at temperatures reaching as high as **2,000°F**. Once the kiln had cooled, brickmakers separated out the “**well-burnt**,” hard bricks which were usable from those which were soft and under-fired. Brickmakers could then re-fire the soft bricks.





BRICKMAKING CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Use the "brickmaking" word list below to complete the crossword puzzle.



DOWN

1. Put in mold to prevent clay from sticking
2. Person who shaped clay into bricks
3. Made 500,000 at Christ Church
4. Bricks' main ingredient
5. Off-bearer took bricks here
6. Burned in kiln

ACROSS

1. Scraping excess clay from mold
2. Area where drying bricks stacked
3. Temperers placed mixed clay here
4. Carried mold to drying bed
5. Mixing clay
6. Bricks made here

GEORGIAN: of the architectural style during the reigns of Kings George 1-George IV of England

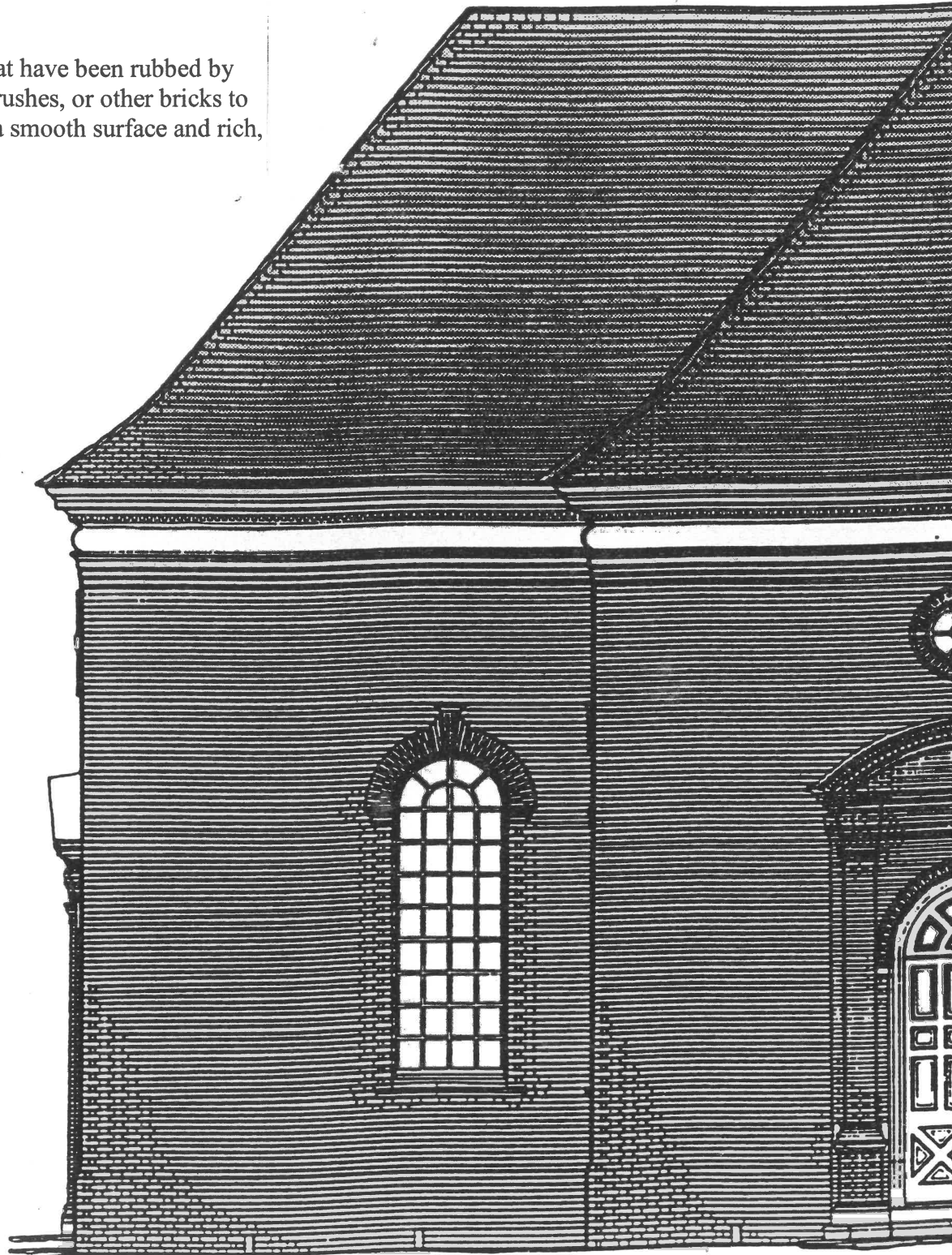
WATERTABLE: a course of sloped bricks that marks the transition from the foundation to the walls above

SYMMETRY: features seen on one side are exactly the same on the other

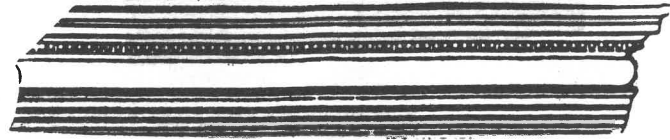
RUBBED BRICKS: bricks that have been rubbed by stones, brushes, or other bricks to produce a smooth surface and rich, red color

THE ARCHITECTURE OF

Building Christ Church was an enormous job. The builder, or **undertaker** as he was called in colonial Virginia, used different shapes, designs, and colors to make Christ Church a unique



ENTABLATURE



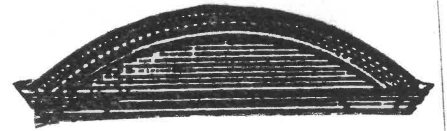
HISTORIC CHRIST CHURCH

structure. Study the terms and figures on the sides of the church. When you visit Christ Church, you will need them to help you draw the main architectural features of the building.

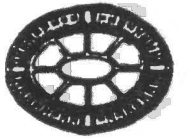
DENTILS



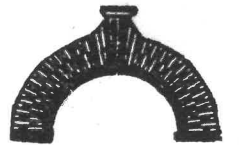
ARCH



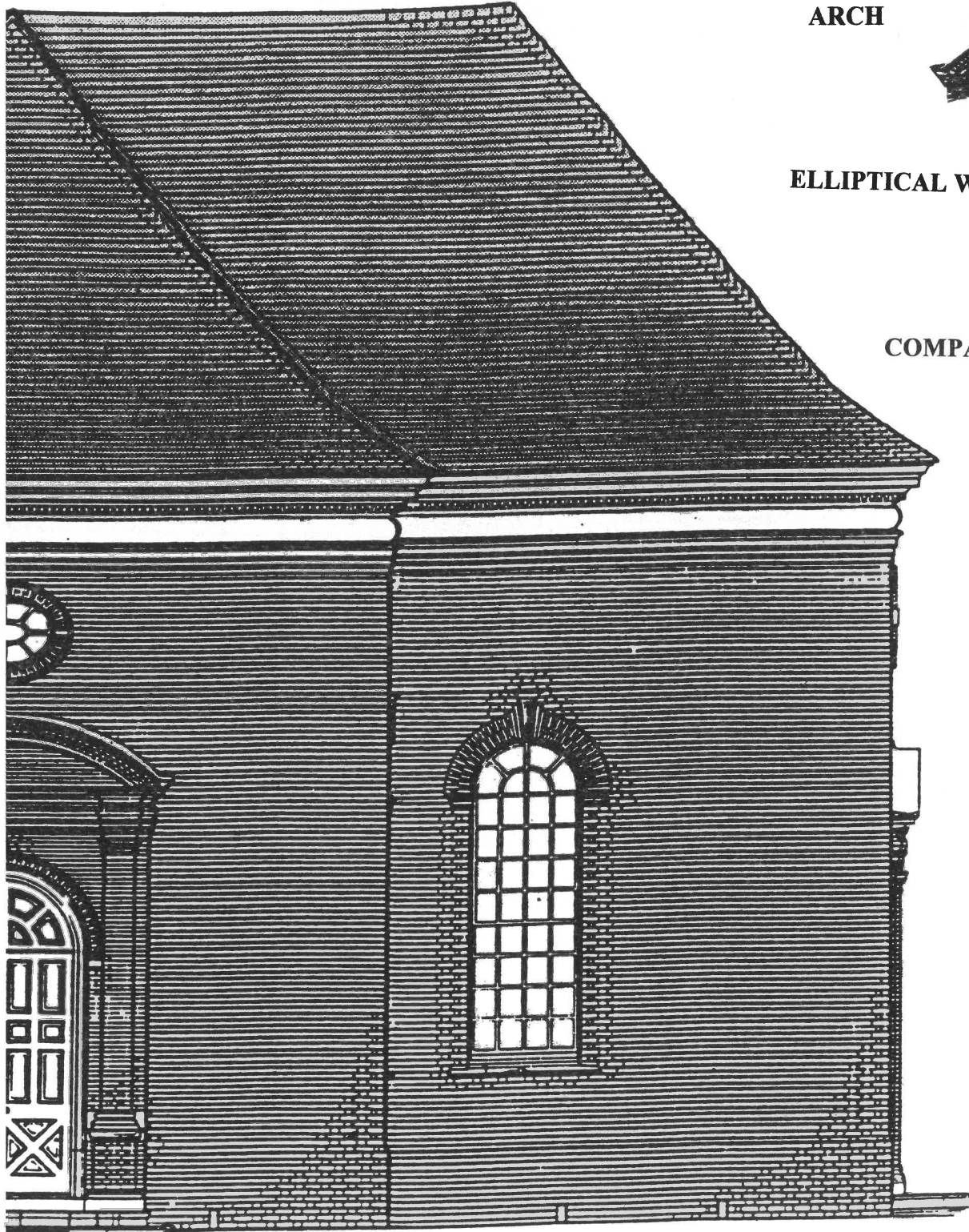
ELLIPTICAL WINDOW

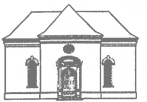


COMPASS-HEAD ARCH



KEYSTONE





CARTER TOMBS WORD SCRAMBLE

The **Carter tombs** were some of the largest and most elaborately **carved** tombs in colonial Virginia. Those of Robert Carter (died in 1732) and his second wife, Betty Landon Carter (died in 1719), are made of **marble**. That of Judith Armistead Carter, Robert's first wife (died in 1699), is made of **limestone**.

Though the tops are not original, they do contain the original inscriptions. Robert Carter's **inscription** was written in **Latin**; the others were written in English. Another name for these tombs is **sarcophagi**, a word often used to describe tombs of ancient Greece and Rome.

Can you find sarcophagi and the other bolded words above in the scrambled words below? Good Luck!

E M S I N L T E O =

A N L T I =

A L M R E B =

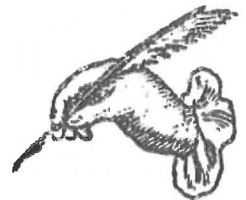
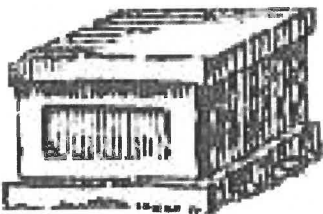
S M T O B =

D R C V A E =

G A I R S H O C A P =

T R C R A E =

P S N I T O I R I C N =





JOBS IN CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

There were many different jobs connected to Christ Church Parish in the colonial period. Below is a description of some of the most important of them. Match the letter next to each job description with the person below who did the job. What job would you have wanted to do most if you had lived in Christ Church Parish in the colonial period?



A. One of two vestrymen chosen each year for this position, this person supervised many aspects of the church and parish life.



B. Often a poor member of the parish, this person kept the church clean. This job could be held by a man or woman.



C. Hired by the vestry, this person assisted the minister in the service & kept parish records. He was also known as the reader.



D. Also called a parson in colonial Virginia, this man led the service on Sunday. He earned 16,000 pounds tobacco each year.



E. One of a select group of twelve, this man helped hire the minister, care for church property, look after the poor, and set annual parish taxes.



F. Appointed by the vestry, this person walked and marked parish property lines once every four years.

_____ **CLERK**

_____ **PROCESSIONER**

_____ **CHURCHWARDEN**

_____ **SEXTON**

_____ **MINISTER**

_____ **VESTRYMAN**

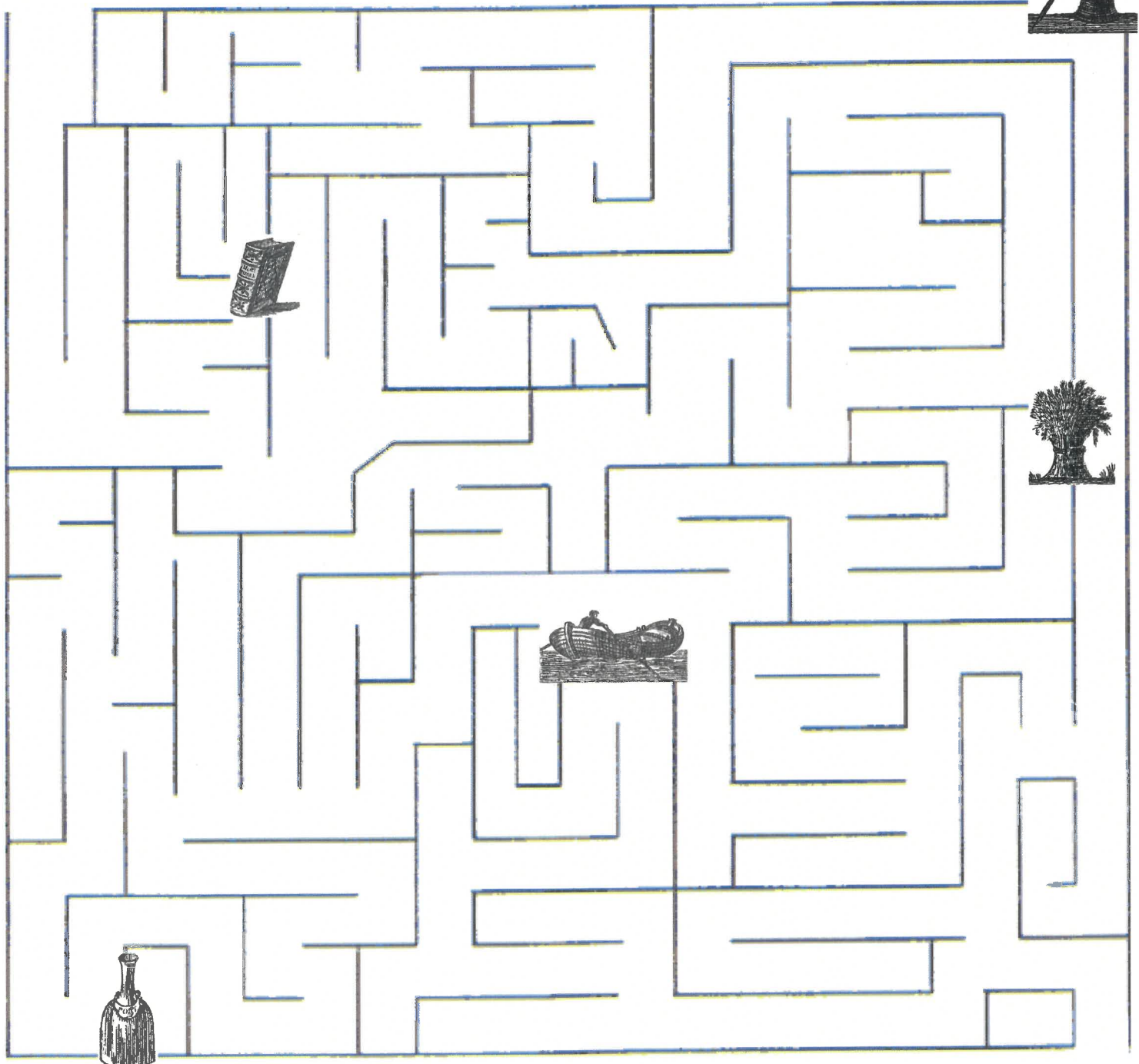


CHRIST CHURCH PARISH MAZE

During the colonial period, the minister of Christ Church also served as the minister of nearby **St. Mary's White Chapel**, which in 1752 formally became part of Christ Church Parish. Every other Sunday, the minister would travel across the parish to preach at St. Mary's White Chapel. See if you can help him find his way through the parish maze and reach the church in time!



START



FINISH



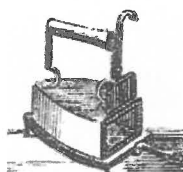


INVENTORIES IN COLONIAL VIRGINIA

Most people who lived in colonial Virginia had very few possessions. Often they owned just the basic necessities to survive: a few farm animals, a small collection of tools, a little household furniture, and some clothing. When someone died, the court ordered that an **inventory** be made of that person's estate. An inventory listed an individual's possessions and the estimated value of them. These inventories allow us to see what types of things people owned in colonial Virginia.

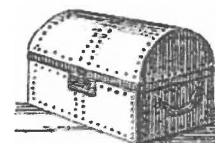
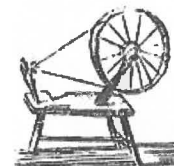
Look at the inventory below. It was made of Robert Wells' estate in 1736. Wells was a common man who lived in Lancaster County. What types of things did he own? What types of items are missing? What type of work do you think he did? Compare Wells' possessions with yours today. Do you think you could survive with what Wells owned? Would you like to have lived back in 1736?

In obedience to an order of Court dated the 14th of July 1736 Wee met and Valued the Estate of Robert Wells what was Offer'd us the 7th Sep.^r 1736.



1 Cow
1 heifer
1 Calf
1 old mare
12 head of hogs
3 head of Sheep
2 Axes
1 Pestle
13 lbs. of old Iron
14 ½ lbs. of old pewter
42 lbs. pot Iron
2 p^r pot hooks

box Iron & heat^r
1 bed, bedsted, rug and cord
1 old bed, bedstead
2 blank^{ts}
1 old Cupboard
a pcel of woodware
2 old chairs
1 spinning wheel
6 lbs. of wool
1 lb. of cotton
1 fat pot
1 old Chest



Pretend your local court has ordered that an inventory be taken of your possessions. Use the space below to list the things you own. Think about what is in your room, like clothes, computers, and furniture, or what might be in your garage or outside, like bikes, soccer balls, and other games. Do you have any of the same possessions that Robert Wells had in 1736? Do you think Wells would know how to use the things you use today?

In obedience to an order of Court dated the ____ of _____ 2016 Wee met and Valued the Estate of _____ as followeth



VIRGINIA GAZETTE

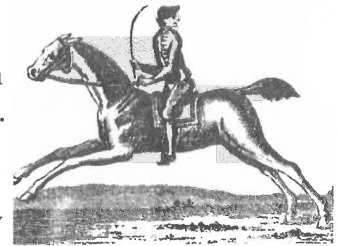
In 1736, William Parks published the first newspaper in colonial Virginia. The *Virginia Gazette* offered information on local events as well as news from England. Some planters used the paper to post advertisements for runaway servants and slaves. Historians use these runaway advertisements to learn about the people of the past.

Look at the advertisement below. It was placed in the *Virginia Gazette* in 1773 by Rawleigh Downman, who was trying to find a servant who had run away from Lancaster County. Study the ad carefully, and then use it to answer the questions below.



December 30, 1773

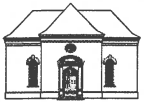
RUN away from the Subscriber, last *October*, an *English* Convict Servant, named JOSEPH LLOYD, by Trade a House Carpenter and Joiner, but understands little of his Business, about twenty one Years of Age, five Feet eight or nine Inches high, a little round shouldered, short light brown Hair, has had the Smallpox favourably, the Pits being few, broad, and shallow. Took with him a *German* Osnabrug Frock and Waistcoat, a Shirt, two Pair of long Breeches, a white Shirt of Irish Linnen, a Frock of blue Fearnought with plain white Metal Buttons, a black and white *Virginia* Cloth Waistcoat Kersey wove, and a Pair of black Cloth Breeches. THREE POUNDS Reward will be paid for conveying him to me at Morattico, Lancaster County, and in Proportion for securing him in Jail, and giving timely Notice thereof, besides what the Law allows. Master of Vessels are hereby forwarned on carrying him out of the Colony, nor detain him on Board any Vessel.



RAWLEIGH DOWNMAN

QUESTIONS:

1. What was the name of the servant who ran away? _____
2. Where was he from? _____
3. What was his trade? _____
4. About how old was he? _____
5. What disease had he had recently? _____
6. Name two articles of clothing he took with him when he ran away. _____
7. How much reward did Rawleigh Downman offer for Lloyd's capture? _____
8. Why do you think Lloyd ran away? _____



IF YOU LIVED IN CHRIST CHURCH PARISH

Imagine you lived in Christ Church Parish in the year 1735. The story below describes what your life may have been like, but some of the most important words are missing! Use the word list at the bottom to complete the story.

My name is _____. I live in Christ Church _____, which is located in Lancaster County in the _____ of Virginia. I



live on a small plantation near the _____ River.

My family and I live there along with an _____ servant

named James who has four years left to serve and a _____ named Ben. We

raise _____ and _____ as our main crops. We

also have some livestock like _____ and _____.



We go to _____ at least once every month. We are required to do so by the _____ of Virginia. Sometimes in church we hear the clerk read new



laws passed by the General _____ or _____

issued by the Governor. In the churchyard, we hear news from

the community and talk about things like the _____ of tobacco or wheat and

the latest goods that have been _____ from _____.



WORD LIST

Assembly	corn	indentured	proclamations
cattle	England	laws	Rappahannock
church	hogs	Parish	slave
colony	imported	price	tobacco



HISTORIC CHRIST CHURCH WORD SEARCH

X	X	K	U	N	X	X	A	F	L	S	U	S	U	C	F	A	O	O	V
H	A	U	J	S	K	D	Y	C	G	Q	B	Y	Y	B	K	R	R	D	R
Q	Q	V	H	P	A	V	C	P	D	G	N	R	Q	Z	K	S	O	V	K
Y	O	S	N	G	E	O	R	G	I	A	N	A	I	U	K	T	C	S	M
H	W	K	L	X	Y	M	X	E	J	H	N	G	O	C	S	R	C	O	N
R	T	T	T	V	C	R	K	F	J	U	A	L	M	B	K	E	A	I	B
G	Z	B	F	C	B	A	T	K	A	M	C	E	J	B	U	T	B	V	M
T	M	E	P	Z	R	T	D	S	V	T	I	B	D	T	G	C	O	E	V
A	Q	B	W	E	X	O	A	S	E	M	L	E	G	K	M	H	T	W	M
X	E	H	F	J	C	L	S	G	O	V	G	X	K	R	R	E	F	X	J
E	B	D	P	U	K	A	L	S	C	U	N	J	W	H	N	R	O	W	L
S	T	I	H	A	K	F	R	F	P	Z	A	Q	R	N	O	T	X	E	S
E	I	H	U	N	R	E	A	T	I	L	R	N	V	B	Y	P	W	L	I
Z	P	L	S	N	R	I	K	F	E	T	A	P	E	U	B	V	P	V	A
G	L	V	C	P	C	H	S	N	Q	R	B	N	M	Z	L	E	A	A	R
A	U	N	E	D	R	A	W	H	C	R	U	H	C	I	N	I	G	T	F
I	P	J	S	Y	M	U	X	J	O	J	Q	B	K	O	D	E	J	Z	S
L	A	E	M	H	J	R	T	M	G	H	E	A	D	E	R	F	V	F	H
Z	S	T	O	Z	O	X	O	J	J	K	D	Q	Y	X	O	C	O	Y	O
Q	Y	J	L	F	D	V	K	C	C	G	M	H	N	Y	O	F	V	F	P

ANGELICAN

GEORGIAN

SEXTON

BRICK

GLEBE

STRETCHER

CARTER

HEADER

TAXES

CHURCHWARDEN

PARISH

TOBACCO

CROSS PLAN

PULPIT

VESTRY

The words can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards, & backwards. Good Luck!