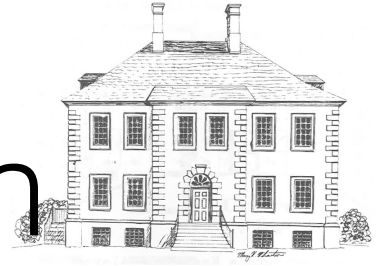


Carlyle Connection

"It's a fine begin-



"This Disturber the Young Chevalier": Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Carlyles

Sarah Coster

We often associate John Carlyle with conflict. Involved in both the French and Indian War and the Revolutionary War, Carlyle played an active part in the two biggest conflicts the American Continent would see during the 18th century.

A study of the primary sources reveals that this tendency to attract conflict may have been a family trait. The letters between John Carlyle and his brother, George Carlyle, a doctor in Kendal, England, reveal that war came to the doorsteps of John Carlyle's family as well. On February 20, 1746, John Carlyle writes to George, saying "I have been for some time uneasy on your and my mother's account for fear of this Disturber the Young Chevalier, I hope before this he has got his quietness (sp) we are in great uneasiness here about it." Who was this "Young Chevalier?" And what did he have to do with George and his mother Rachel's safety?

To answer this question, we look toward Scotland, where a Jacobite uprising occurred from 1745-1746. Often referred to as "The Forty-five," the uprising was an attempt by Charles Edward Stuart, known as Bonnie Prince Charlie, to recapture the English throne for his exiled father, James Francis Edward Stuart, the son of James II, a Catholic monarch, who lost his throne to William of Orange during the Revolution of 1688, also



Prince Charles Edward Stuart, painted by an unknown artist, c. 1750. In this portrait, Charles is wearing a blue bonnet with a white cockade, symbols of the Jacobite Cause. Image courtesy of the National Galleries of Scotland.

known as the Glorious Revolution. The aim of the Jacobite Cause was to restore the Stuarts to the English throne, a goal which Prince Charles would make history pursuing.

Born in 1720, the same year as John Carlyle, Bonnie Prince Charlie was young and charming. (Coincidentally, John Carlyle and Prince Charles shared a common ancestry. Prince Charles was a direct descendant of King Robert de Brus, and John Carlyle was the descendant of Robert de Brus' sister, Lady Margaret). Raised in Rome, Prince Charles studied the art of war from a young age. In 1745, at age 25, Charles sailed to Scotland to raise an army out of the Scottish Highland Clans, many of whom were loyal to the Jacobite Cause.

After a victory in Prestonpans, Scotland in September, Bonnie Prince Charlie, also known as "The Young Pretender," decided to lead his army into England. On November 8, 1745, they crossed into Cumberland County, with an eye on taking the town of Carlisle, the home of John and George Carlyle's mother, Rachel.

Carlisle was poorly defended and ill prepared to withstand a siege. At one time, Carlisle Castle had been strongly fortified, but, by 1754, the structure was





The Northwest View of Carlisle Castle, by Samuel and Nathaniel Buck, 1739, five years before the uprising. An original print is on display in the Carlyle House.

falling apart. Even the battlements had been recently demolished. The garrison stationed there, under the command of Captain Gilpin, consisted of 80 old and infirm soldiers. When it became clear the Jacobite army was moving toward Carlisle, Dr. Waugh, the chancellor of the Diocese of Carlisle, informed the British government of the city’s inadequate defenses. The government responded by sending a single officer, Colonel Durand, to assess the situation. Durand requested 500 regular infantry as reinforcements, but was given 500 men from the Cumberland militia, training in nearby Whitehaven. Durand did his best to prepare the town with the resources he had, using sandbags to replace the missing battlements and placing two of Dr. Waugh’s clergy as lookouts, using the large spy glass he had brought from London.

On November 9, 1745, the enemy was sighted. Prince Charles wasted no time in asking the town to surrender, stating, “It will perhaps be in our Power to prevent the dreadful consequences which usually attend a town being taken by assault.” The town gave no reply but continued to fire on the Jacobites.

Colonel Durand made repeated requests for help to Marshal Wade in Newcastle, but, on November 13, he

received a reply that no reinforcements would be sent. The roads were impassable, Wade explained, and went on to wish Durand “all imaginable success.”

Meanwhile, the citizens in Carlisle, Rachel Carlyle most likely among them, were in a panic, fearing the town’s bombardment by Bonnie Prince Charlie’s army. They had been given a brief respite from their fears, along with a false sense of victory, when Prince Charles briefly turned his army eastward, hoping to engage Marshal Wade, who he believed, mistakenly, was marching to relieve Carlisle. But on the 13th of November, the army was back

and building earthworks outside the city.

By this time, the militia, surprised at suddenly being in the middle of a battle, and the townspeople resolved together to surrender the town. The disgruntled militiamen were deserting one at a time and Carlisle was in a state of chaos. At one point, the town tried to surrender on its own, while Colonel Durand and the garrison at Carlisle Castle were still fighting. Prince Charles refused to accept any terms unless Carlisle Castle itself surrendered. A group of leading citizens went to Colonel Durand to beg him to surrender “for God’s sake.” He and Captain Gilpin did capitulate to their demands, but not before noting in writing the deplorable behavior and weakness of the militia and the citizens.

On November 15, the Mayor and his attendants delivered the keys to the city to Prince Charles, and two days later, the “Young Pretender” entered Carlisle mounted on a white horse and preceded by 100 pipers. Much to the relief of the townspeople, the Jacobite army was not as cruel as rumors had led them to believe. In one amusing anecdote, the invading army entered a home in Carlisle to find a young child hiding under the bed. When they asked the child’s mother

why, she begged them to spare her child because she'd heard "the Highlanders were a Savage Sett of people and eat all the young children."

Anxious to continue south, Bonnie Prince Charlie left Carlisle two weeks later, stopping at the town of Kendal, where George Carlyle lived and practiced medicine. There, Prince Charles stayed at the Strickland House, which still stands today. The army continued as far as Derby (120 miles from London), where, despite objections from Prince Charles, they decided to turn back north.

While the army's march south through Kendal had been peaceful, the retreat was not.

On December 15, 1745, a local militia group attacked the advance party, leaving one local farmer and one Jacobite soldier shot. Not far behind Prince Charles was his pursuer, the young Duke of Cumberland, the brother of King George III. Only one night after Prince Charles, the Duke of Cumberland slept



The house on Strickland Street in Kendal, England, where both Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Duke of Cumberland slept.

in the same bed, in a building that still stands in Kendal.

It is not every day an army captures your town, marches through your streets and sheds blood at your doorsteps. Understandably, George Carlyle and his mother Rachel were upset by the events of November and December 1745. Rachel found herself so rattled by the chaos in Carlisle that she came to stay with her son George for three weeks "as a little Relaxation after the Hurry they had been in at Carlisle."

Far away in Virginia, John Carlyle was receiving news of the uprising, but had no correspondence from his brother to ensure him of his family's safety. The lengthy time it took for letters to cross the Atlantic added to John's worry and frustration. In fact, it seems George's first letter to John about the uprising, written on February 6th may have not reached its destination at all. It is not until July 30, 1746 that it becomes clear from their correspondence that John has been made fully aware of what occurred in November of the previous year.



Portrait of Prince William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, son of George II, 1758 by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

"I am Sorry you should be under Such Uneasy apprehensions on our account during our Troubles," George writes, "but expect you are Satisfied of our Lucky escapes before this by the receipt of some of my Letters that you may have a more perfect notion of our Situation than either the newspapers I have sent from time to time as my former Letters gave you." In this July 30 letter, George included yet more newspapers and two "accounts" of the events, one written by Mr. Armstrong, an attorney and tenant of George Carlyle's, and another by his "worthy friend Mr. S." These accounts, George hoped, would allow John to judge for himself "how much more a comfortable Situation Providence has now plac'd us than we were in some months ago."

In the time between "some months ago" and July of 1746, much had changed. On December 21st, Carlisle underwent yet another siege, as the Duke of Cumberland fought to regain the town from the

garrison Prince Charles had left behind. After a series of engagements in Scotland, Bonnie Prince Charlie's army met its final defeat at the Battle of Culloden on April 16, 1746. Prince Charles escaped, but the Jacobites he left behind faced brutal treatment from the victors. 3,500 Jacobite men, women and children were taken prisoner. The leaders were brutally executed, including Colonel Francis Townley, who had been left behind to hold the town of Carlisle. The method of execution for treason was hanging, with the gruesome twist that before death the guilty party was disemboweled while still alive. 900 prisoners were sentenced with "perpetual banishment" and sent to the colonies, most with indentures, a punishment akin to slavery. To add insult to injury, traditional highland dress was outlawed in Scotland.



Portrait of George Carlyle, by an unknown artist. C. 1750-1765. Carlyle House collection.

There is little doubt that the Carlyles were against the Jacobite Cause and the chaos it brought to their homes. In his July, 1746 letter, George Carlyle wrote to John about four judges coming to "try the Rebels." With an almost audible sigh of relief, George related how things had

changed since "the (I hope I may now say) entire Suppression of the Rebellion in Scotland," and praised "our young Hero," the Duke of Cumberland. George fervently expressed his hope to "see a general and advantageous Peace Succeed our so long continued war & Commotions."

Peace replaced war for George and Rachel Carlyle in Cumberland County, England, but not for John Carlyle, in the colony of Virginia. Less than a decade after Bonnie Prince Charlie's uprising, war came to John Carlyle's own door, in the form of General Edward Braddock. There in John Carlyle's dining

room, Braddock mapped out a plan of attack in a war that Carlyle himself foreshadowed, nine years earlier, when he wrote to his brother. In that letter, after expressing his concerns about "The Young Chevalier," Carlyle wrote that there was nothing new to report in Virginia, "only the Indians have been tampered with by the French but we hope to no effect. Still we are preparing to be on our guard." The colonists would increasingly find the need to "be on guard" in the coming years, until conflict once again crossed paths with the Carlyle family.

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- MacLean, Fitzroy. *Bonnie Prince Charlie*. New York: Atheneum, Macmillan Publishing Company, 1988.
- Munson, James D. *Col. John Carlyle, Gent.: A True and Just Account of the Man and His House*. Fairfax, Virginia: Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, 1986.



Portrait of Rachel Murray Carlyle, by an unknown artist. c. 1720. Carlyle House collection.

Friends of Carlyle House 2011 Holiday Party



New Acquisition: 18th Century Shoe Buckles with Carlyle Provenance

We are pleased to announce the recent acquisition of a pair of 18th century shoe buckles that likely belonged to John Carlyle or his son-in-law, William Herbert. The buckles are a gift from Mrs. Nancy Holt Stowell, a descendant of John Carlyle through his daughter Sarah Carlyle Herbert. Mrs. Stowell has long been a generous friend and benefactor of the museum. In 2008, she donated a sleeve of Sarah Carlyle's wedding gown. The color of the sleeve was the least faded of any the museum had acquired, and, along with the pattern, allowed us to recreate the gown.



The shoe buckles were passed down from generation to generation and featured prominently in the corner cabinet in her parents', Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Herbert Holt's, home in Hampton, Virginia. While we cannot be completely sure that these shoe buckles were John Carlyle's, it is a strong possibility.

Dating back to the 1760s-1790s, the shoe buckles are silver and feature a gadroon or notched decoration along the edge. The chape and tongue attachments appear to be steel, which is typical. They are also uniform, which likely means that they are original to the buckles. Period account books for jewelers often include entries for replacing buckle chapes, since the stress on the chapes would cause them to break. Sometimes only one chape broke and needed to be replaced, so the new chapes no longer match. The

chapes on these buckles are in a style that was typical of the last third of the 18th century, but if the chapes were replaced, the frame could be earlier.

The probate inventory of John Carlyle's home, conducted in 1780, reveals that Carlyle did, in fact, own not one, but two pairs of silver shoe buckles. Shoe buckles were an important accessory for a fashionable gentleman like Carlyle. If they did belong to John Carlyle, it is hard to know for certain who made them or where they were made. We know that John Carlyle patronized Annapolis silversmith Samuel Soumaien, who created the silver tankard featuring the Carlyle and Fairfax coat of arms. There were also a few silversmiths working in Alexandria at the time. In 1753, watchmaker Isaac Furrow owed a debt to Carlyle and Dalton, and the probate inventory of Scotsman Charles Turner's Alexandria home reveals that he owned silversmith tools. James Adam, the first of four generations of Alexandria silversmiths, was in Alexandria by 1775 and possibly earlier. Also, it is possible that John Carlyle imported his silver shoe buckles from Europe.

The shoe buckles are currently on display with other Carlyle and Herbert owned silver. They can be viewed in the Upper Passage of the museum. We are very grateful to Nancy Stowell for her generous donation. Thanks also to Sara Rivers Cofield, curator at the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory, for her research assistance.



A Note from the Educator

Lacey Villiva

In the last quarter, the Education Department has managed some leaps and bounds. We have drawn on a new pool of area schools for our school-age programs and have served 661 students since July, a great improvement over last year when our count was estimated at 832 students. In the coming months, we hope to draw in an



even larger audience with a program focusing on the Civil War, and a traveling trunk program based on our *Discovery Through Trash* tour. It is always a pleasure to enrich minds, young and old, with experiences like these.

This fall, we also ran a very full docent training. Our advertisement, through word of mouth and digitally, was very successful. Many of the recruits had heard about the program through the ads we had placed, but many others from other docents. It is my pleasure to welcome a fine group of 13 new docents to the Carlyle House Family. We are also looking forward to having even more fantastic docents fully trained by the end of March.

Archaeological Collection is Given New Life, Thanks to the Friends of Carlyle House



Collections awaiting new homes.

Sabrina Crane, the Collections Manager at Carlyle House, holds up a beautiful white shard of pottery that once was a pitcher. Carefully, she matches it to another piece, and we all gasp in awe. The pieces together form a beautiful scene of a sailor bidding adieu to his mistress. This pitcher once graced the table at Carlyle House or the Bank of Alexandria, sometime between 1800-1830. Broken, it was tossed into a pit of trash, only to be discovered 150 years later, in 1974, during the archaeological excavations at Carlyle House.

Today, thanks to the generosity of Friends like you,

this artifact, and many others like it, are receiving a new life and once more getting the care and appreciation they deserve. The Friends have graciously set aside \$3,500 to re-house and catalog these collections. Sabrina is painstakingly entering hundreds of catalog cards into our database, and photographing each object. Even more importantly, Sabrina is removing the objects from aging and brittle boxes and bags, and re-housing them in new, acid-free, archival-safe blue board boxes and bags. We can't thank the Friends enough!



Staff and volunteers examine a pitcher from the Archaeology Collection

Buy Your Tickets Now:

An Evening at the Little Theatre of Alexandria in Support of the Friends of Carlyle House



All The King's Women

**\$30
General Admission**

***Tuesday, June 19th
Reception at 7 pm
Show Begins at 8 pm***

***Call 703-549-2997 to
reserve your tickets
today.***

Enjoy a wine and cheese reception at 7 pm featuring a variety of raffles. All proceeds from the event will support the Friends of Carlyle House.



Friends of Carlyle House Annual Garden Day Herb & Craft Sale

**Saturday, April 21
8 am to 4 pm**

Don't miss our biggest fundraising event of the year, the Friends of Carlyle House's Annual Garden Day Herb & Craft Sale.

Each year, this event raises over \$2,500 for the museum and garden. *We need your help spreading the word, buying herbs, and even being a volunteer.* This year's sale features an exciting mix of herbs and vegetable plants available for purchase, and family friendly activities and entertainment.

Culinary and decorative herbs and plants from Mount Vernon and Layng & Company will be available for purchase. Knowledgeable representatives from the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, the Virginia Native Plant Society and Bartlett Tree Experts will be on site to offer guidance to help ensure that your plants thrive when you get them home.

Come shop for a special gift from local artisans and crafters while listening to performances by area musicians and living historians. Bring your little ones to participate in a child's craft (\$2 per child) and 18th century games and activities are FREE!

The House will also be open for tours and a 10% discount on all garden related items will be available from the Museum Shop.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

As a member of the Friends, *you can make this event a success.* We need volunteers (and even just shoppers). This is a one day commitment and no previous volunteer experience is needed. Please e-mail hwirka@nvrpa.org for more information.

News From the Curator

Helen Wirka

John Carlyle's "Family": Interpreting Slavery at the Carlyle House

Slavery is an important part of the interpretation at Carlyle House and an area that we have learned is occasionally overlooked. When Joe the blacksmith, one of our mannequins representing the negroes owned by John Carlyle, broke and we surveyed our docents to find out what role he played in their tours and visitors' overall experiences, we learned some compelling information: often, slavery was overlooked or mentioned only in passing.

As a result, the staff decided to do a training session in the month of February, Black History Month. Forty-two docents and staff gathered together to learn more and open up a dialogue about slavery and the Carlyle House. John Carlyle obtained his wealth and lifestyle in several different ways, and owning enslaved workers was one of them. He benefited from the Triangle Trade and Middle Passage, where manufactured goods from Europe, especially Great Britain, were shipped to the West African Coast, where traders purchased Africans and brought them across the Atlantic to British colonies to be sold in North America.

We opened the discussion with facts about slavery in the 18th century based, upon primary documents written by George Washington, Philip Vickers Fithian (a tutor for Robert Carter from 1773-74), newspaper ads and store records as well as the attitude of the Presbyterian Church in the late 18th Century. All of these documents enhance the small amount of information we learn about John Carlyle and the enslaved workers he owned, including his feelings towards them (business-like, reliant upon them, and distrustful). We use his letters, his will and his probate inventory to try to understand John Carlyle's involvement and thoughts on slavery.

After learning the facts, we took a look at how we



interpret slavery in the museum. This was done by re-introducing our docents to the identities of the mannequins whose presence tell our story not only on regular, daily tours but also during school programs. Carlyle House Educator, Lacey Villiva, and our museum teachers use a visual activity during our school program, "Don't Get Weary," which helps children differentiate between urban slavery, such as occurred in John Carlyle's home on N. Fairfax Street, and the experiences of rural slavery similar to what took place on his plantations and at Mount Vernon. Docents were given an introduction to this activity during the lecture as well. In addition, we reviewed talking points for each room in the house so that docents are well supplied with accurate information and can feel confident when answering the public's questions about slavery.

The lecture ended with a discussion on "Interpreting Difficult Knowledge." Slavery is not an easy topic, and not everyone is comfortable talking about it: visitors and volunteers. We discussed how to work with visitors who struggle with the topic by putting a name and a face with it. Carlyle House is extremely lucky to have primary resources regarding slavery for our interpretation. "Cook," "Moses," "Penny" and "Charles" help us to humanize slavery rather than objectifying it. John Carlyle was a self-made man, filled with entrepreneurial spirit. But, he could not have accomplished all that he did without the enslaved workers who lived and worked in his home. We do not know how he truly felt about them, other than receiving glimpses here and there – but perhaps that tells us even more of the story than appears at first glance?



Mother's Day Tea

Sunday, May 13th – 2 pm
\$27 per person

*Friends of Carlyle House
receive 10% off*

Treat your mother, grandmother or special woman in your life to an elegant afternoon tea at historic Carlyle House in Old Town Alexandria. Relax in the beautiful setting of our Magnolia Terrace and enjoy period classical music. Experience personalized tableside service and scrumptious food catered by *Calling Card Events* for a day she won't soon forget.



Upcoming Events Carlyle House

Saturday, April 14: 12-4 pm

“The Grandest Congress”: Braddock in Alexandria

Spring, 1755: Major General Edward Braddock, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America, convened a meeting of five colonial governors at John Carlyle's Alexandria home. Join us on Saturday April 14th, to step back in time to this historic moment. Visitors can inspect the troops as they drill on the front lawn of the house. Costumed interpreters will be on site to answer your questions.

\$5 admission

Saturday, April 21: 8 am - 4 pm

Friends of Carlyle House Annual Herb Sale

The Friends of Carlyle House Annual Garden Day Herb & Craft Sale features herbs and perennials from the gardens and greenhouses of *Mount Vernon* as well as a variety of local jewelry, home goods and crafts for sale by local artisans and merchants. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer your horticultural questions.

Admission charged for house tour.

Sunday, May 13: 2 pm

Mother's Day Tea

Treat your mother, grandmother or special woman in your life to an elegant afternoon tea at historic Carlyle House in Old Town Alexandria. Relax in the beautiful setting of our Magnolia Terrace and enjoy period classical music. Experience personalized tableside service and scrumptious food catered by *Calling Card Events* for a day she won't soon forget.

\$27/person; Friends of Carlyle House receive 10% off

Tuesday, June 19: 7 pm

All the King's Women: A Night at the Little Theatre of Alexandria benefiting the Friends

Support Carlyle House and enjoy a night out at the theatre for this special benefit performance. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased at Carlyle House or by calling 703-549-2997.



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Carlyle House Historic Park is accredited by
the American Association of Museums



News from the Site Director

Annual Appeal Raises \$7,735 - Your Support is Still Needed

Thank you to everyone who donated to our 2011 Annual Appeal. So far, with your donations, we have raised, \$7,735. ***This is a wonderful show of support, but we are still \$6,000 short of our fundraising goal of \$14,000.*** Last year, you helped us raise \$16,650 for the restoration of John Carlyle's Bible, so I know together we can do this!

The mission of the Carlyle House is to preserve and interpret the site, its history and collections, as an educational resource for people of all ages and backgrounds, to explore the life and times of the Carlyle family in Alexandria, Virginia. We believe each of the projects we are raising money for takes us one step further in fulfilling that mission to the "people of all ages and backgrounds" who come to the museum to get a glimpse of what life was like in the past.

The money raised during this campaign will allow us to purchase a "traveling trunk" of objects and activities that will bring Carlyle House to the classroom. This will act as a "mobile museum" to give students who can't be here in person the chance to have a museum experience. We will also be using the funds to focus on our outdoor interpretation, including updated signage, a garden walking tour and a cell-phone tour.

Successful Holiday Season at Carlyle House

Carlyle House had a very successful holiday season of programming. 630 visitors enjoyed our "Soldier's Christmas" event. The next weekend we hosted back-to-back "Candlelight Tours." The tours featured a Civil War theme. For the first time in decades, Carlyle House had a Christmas tree in its living room. Guests were entertained by the musical group "Evergreen Shade" and solo flautist Lisa Anderson. Staff member Teresa Martinez portrayed a Mansion House Hospital nurse. 900 people attended the tours.

Following Candlelight Tours, we held our annual Friends of Carlyle House Holiday party. The event was a huge success, with 120 members and volunteers attending. We were entertained with holiday music performed by the "Colonial Recorders." Thanks to everyone who came out!

Be sure to mark your calendars for two Friends fundraisers coming up; our annual Garden Day Herb Sale on April 21st and a special benefit performance of *All the King's Women* at the Little Theatre of Alexandria on June 19th.

Sincerely,

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