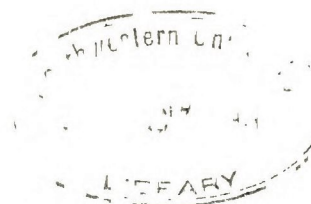


THE WORKS PROGRAM

--Works Progress Administration--



For Release in Morning Newspapers
Wednesday, August 18, 1937.

President to Dedicate W.P.A. Project.

A replica of the thatched log cabin on Roanoke Island, off the North Carolina coast, in which Virginia Dare, the first child of English parentage born in the New World, saw the light on August 18, 1587, just 350 years ago today, was formally thrown open for President Roosevelt's inspection at the opening of the commemorative ceremonies and pageant this morning.

After much research and delving into historical records, the North Carolina Historical Commission established the original plans of the stockaded village built by Sir Walter Raleigh's soldiers of fortune, and during the past several years the W.P.A. has carried out the restoration of the entire settlement, known in history as the "Citie of Raleigh", or "The Lost Colony." In addition to the birthplace of Virginia Dare, which belonged to her grandfather, Governor John White, there is a log church, a fort, and several cottages, all with thatched roofs. The tract, which is at the northern tip of the island, is surrounded by a log stockade.

The work of restoring this shrine has been carried out with historical accuracy, including the use of juniper logs and wooden pins. The fields have been sown as the colonists sowed them, with squash, pumpkin, maize and tobacco.

According to the most reliable records, Governor White set sail for England a few days after his granddaughter was born to get relief for his 120 settlers, including 17 women and 10 children. When he returned two years later, there was not a trace of any one.

The restoration of the "Lost Colony", begun by the C.W.A., was taken over by the W.P.A. two years ago. The cost has been about \$21,000.

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