

What did Williamsburg look like in 1770?

At a time when most people lived on farms, Williamsburg was a thriving town. It had wide streets, large public buildings, and elegant shops. It had a theater.

The handsome H-shaped Capitol building with the British flag flying above it was at one end of town. At the other end was the college — William and Mary, the second college in America.

On the main streets, houses stood side by side with shops that sold all kinds of goods and services. Many of the houses had gardens.

In and outside of Williamsburg, there were small- and medium-sized farms. Farther away from town were large plantations — hundreds of acres of land planted in tobacco, corn, and wheat.

