

FOLLY LANE COTTAGE

Lacock Village, England

Folly Lane Cottage is a replica in miniature of a well-appointed English home of the 1840s. It is patterned after an actual house on High Street in Lacock Village.

In residence is the prosperous Edward Fox Talbot, noted barrister, member of the village hunt, and a talented oil painter. The fictitious squire's wife Mary, who did the fine needlepoint on display in the bedchamber, has stepped out for a moment while their grandchild naps in the cradle. In the kitchen, Daphne, the housekeeper, rules, while outside, gardener Thomas does battle with rabbits and the occasional gopher.

Each object in the home is finely executed by noted artists, from the family suit of armor in the paneled parlor to delicately fashioned furniture, an exquisite collection of silver and blue and white china, copper cookware, and the tiniest accessories.

Gift of Mrs. Edward T. Harrison, 1997 (8592.1)

THE DAVIDSON SHOP

Williamsburg, Virginia

The original Davidson Shop was built by Henry Gill in May 1707, at the corner of Duke of Gloucester and Botetourt Streets. Williamsburg was the seat of government and the economic, educational, religious and social center of the Virginia colony from 1699 to 1779. Gill apparently used the structure as his dwelling house and also kept an ordinary, a tavern or eating house, where regular meals were served there from 1708 to 1714. This miniature replica is furnished as such an ordinary.

Sometime before 1744 the property came into the possession of Robert Davidson, a "Practitioner in Physick," who supplied his clients with "Balsams, Decoctions, Electuaries, Elixirs, Emplaisters, Extracts, Infusions, Liquors, Magisteries, Oils, Ointments," and other remedies believed to soothe ailments. Thus the shop was an earlier version of today's pharmacy.

The Davidson Shop which stands today in the Colonial Williamsburg Restoration, was reconstructed beginning in 1927 based on excavated foundations and descriptions of the building in old documents. The wide display windows are protected in front by a deep cornice and a raised platform – a refuge from the inevitable mud or dust of unpaved streets in colonial days.

Gift of Mrs. Edward T. Harrison, 1983 (5114.1)