



Crayfish and Shrimp Stewcup \$7.95An 18th-Century Recipe of Tomatoes,
Vegetables, Sherry, Shrimp, and Crayfishbowl \$11.95

Tavern Sampler\$15.95A Taste of the Empire with Glazed Chicken,Virginia Ham Biscuit and Fried Shrimpwith Shield's AïoliVirginia Ham Biscuit and Fried Shrimp

Butternut Squash Soupcup \$6.95A Hearty Bisque of Roasted Butternutbowl \$9.95Squash, Sweet Potatoes, Cinnamon,spices, Finished with an English Cream

Savory Beef Pasty A Traditional Caribbean Meat Pye Served with Mango Chutney

Chopped Salet \$1 Colonial Chopped Salet with Grilled Chicken, Virginia Ham, Bacon, Egg, Cheddar, Tomato, Cucumber, and Peppercorn Ranch Dressing	14.95	Shields' Classic Hamburger * Gridiron-cooked Beef, Grilled Brioche Bun wit Pickle Spear, Tomato, Lettuce, and Red Onion Add Bacon \$1.50 Add Cheese \$1.00	\$14.95 h
BBQ Pork Sandwich \$1 Slow-Cooked Southern-style Pulled Pork on a Toasted Fine Roll Served with Tavern Fries and Slaw	12.95	Old-Fashioned Chicken and Dumplings The best of the Fowl, Chicken Breast Tenderloins, Thigh Meat, Dumplings, Slowly Simmered in Chicken Stock	\$15.95
Roasted Turkey Sandwich \$1. Roasted Turkey Breast with Arugula, Smoked Gouda and Sun-dried Tomato Aïoli on grilled Flatbread Add Bacon \$1.50	14.95	Cranberry Almond Chicken Salet A Salet of Slow-roasted Chicken, Cranberries and Herbs, Toasted Almond, Cucumber, Carrot and Tomato Garnish	\$12.95
Stuffed Holland Bell Pepper \$1 Ratatouille of Eggplant, Zucchini and Squash, Served over Pesto Orzo and Garnished with Parmesan Cheese, Tomato, Herb and Mushroom Sauce	14.95	Ale-Potted Beef Pye Tender Ale-Simmered Beef with Vegetables, Served Under a Warm Pastry Crust	\$16.95

\$9.95



SHIELDS Tavern

Ithough Williamsburg seems land-locked today, the eighteenthcentury city was closely linked to the wider world by its two ports. Queen Anne's Port and Queen Mary's Port were located on nearby deep creeks that fed into the James and York Rivers respectively, so vessels could bring goods and people from all over the world right to Williamsburg's door. Local merchants stocked imported goods, and Virginians could also order directly from merchants in Britain. Although the Navigation Acts dictated colonists could receive European goods only via Britain, they engaged in a robust illicit trade with the West Indian ports of other European powers. People arrived in Williamsburg voluntarily and involuntarily from Britain, Africa, Europe, and the West Indies, and many of them found their way to Williamsburg's taverns as either workers or guests.

Jean Marot, a Frenchman, operated a tavern on this site from about 1709 until his death in 1717, when his widow Anne took over. Their daughter Anne and her husband James Shields began to run the business in the early 1740s. They lived here with their several children, who likely assisted their parents with the work as soon as they were old enough. Shields also owned several enslaved workers.

By 1750, when Shields died, his tavern was one among seven licensed taverns competing for customers in Williamsburg. Located in a crowded commercial and residential part of town, it offered food and drink, overnight lodgings, and entertainment including gambling and billiards. Clientele could gather in a public room to mingle and exchange news with fellow customers or reserve a small space in which to conduct private business. Shields Tavern catered to the lesser gentry and upper middling ranks of Williamsburg society and to travelers to the capital from near and far.

An eighteenth-century visitor to Shields Tavern would have found ample evidence of the cosmopolitan nature of the Atlantic world. Many consumables came to the tavern from afar. A customer would find molasses, sugar, and rum from the West Indies; wines from Portugal, Spain, and France; coffee from Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean; tea from Asia; lemons and limes from the Caribbean; and spices from all over the world. Archaeology shows us Shields served his patrons with British, Chinese, and German ceramic wares. Newspapers at the tavern reported the news of the world. Although a guest at Shields Tavern would have heard mainly English spoken by those about him, he would have been surrounded by many variations from Britain, the West Indies, and Africa. Taverns were both gathering places for locals and for people, objects, and ideas from all over the Atlantic world.

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