Currituck Jack Conceptual Drawings

Stephen Hayes - Artist

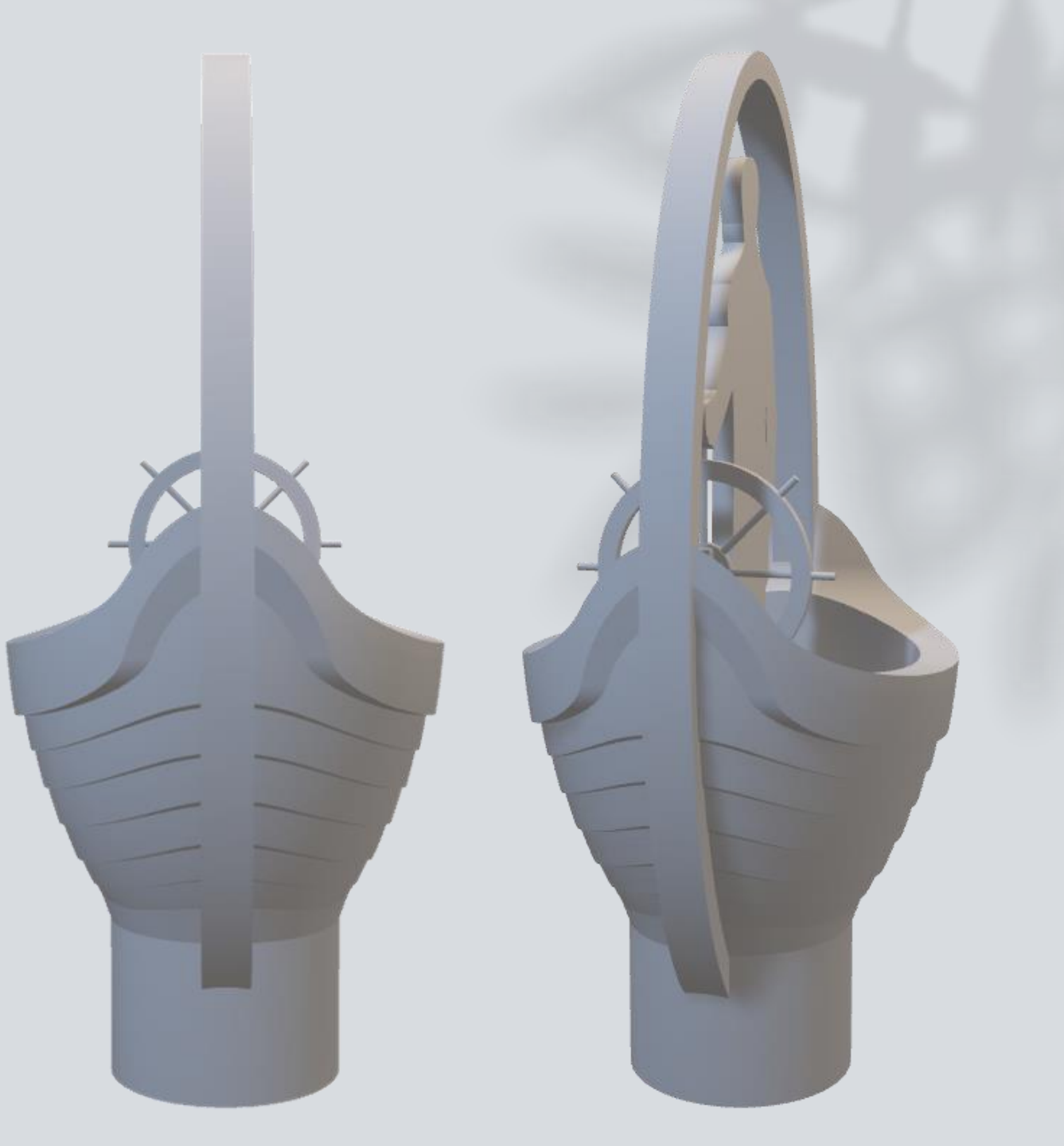
Z. Smith Reynolds Inclusive Public Art Grant

Conceptual Drawings and Location

Following are four different conceptual drawings for the John Jasper White (Currituck Jack) statue. It is important to note that these are conceptual, one dimensional, drawings that do not show the kinetic energy and movement of the completed statue. The statue itself will be in bronze, the figure around 7 feet (not including pedestal or any arch or circle if that design is chosen.

The community, with the approval of the Currituck County Board of Commissioners, decided that the statue should be located at the site of the Historic Jarvisburg Colored School, somewhere between the visitor's center and the school near the highway for visibility. Exact location will depend upon any utility lines and the soil permeability and capacity to carry load. This will be determined by the County's engineering department and with the consultation of a structural engineer.

Historic Jarvisburg Colored School with visitor's center to the left and Corinth Church to the right.



Clothing

There are two different concepts for the clothing for the statue:

1. The first would be clothing typical of a seaman of the later 1700s consisting of a shorter jacket, the short, wide leg pants of the period and a seaman's cap (in this instance, a knit cap). Although enslaved, John Jasper White was considered to be a valued member of the crew and would have likely been dressed appropriately. This type of clothing is shown in slides #1, #2 and #3.

2. The second concept would be to show John Jasper White as a ship owner and land owner, which he became after his manumission. This status would be shown with a different cut of jacket (much longer and more embellished) and pants typical of a middleclass man of this time period (breeches that came just below the knee and were often buttoned at the knee. This type of dress is shown in slides #4 and #5. Slide #6 shows a great coat of the period. The hat would be the 3-cornered, or cocked hat, shown in slide #1.

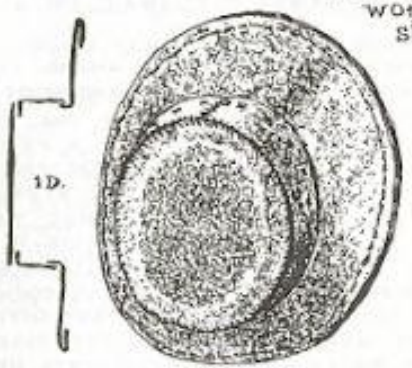
#1

CREW'S CLOTHING ~ The privateersmen wore no uniform. The clothes that were worn back on the farm, the shop, or the fishing vessel were good enough.

1A.

1B.

1C.


1D.

1E.

Still, it made sense to wear some of the gear that had proved useful over long years of sea use.

1. HATS – THE CONVENTIONAL WIDE-BRIMMED HAT WAS WORN
   A. THREE-CORNERED OR COCKED.
   B. TURNED UP ALL AROUND.
   C. TURNED UP ON ONE OR BOTH SIDES.
   D. SAILOR'S FLAT-BRIMMED HAT FROM PIECE OF SHIP'S CANVAS AND WATERPROOFED WITH TAR OR PAINT.
   E. KNIT CAP.
2. BLACK (IT HID THE DIRT) NECKERCHIEF, ORIGINALLY CALLED A "SWEAT RAG," IT WAS WORN ABOUT THE NECK OR FOREHEAD.
3. PEA COAT – SEAMAN'S TOP COAT FOR COLD WEATHER – OF "PILOT CLOTH."
4. BELL-BOTTOMED TROUSERS COULD BE EASILY ROLLED UP WHEN SCRUBBING DECKS OR WADING ASHORE.
5. QUEUES – LAID UP IN –
   A. FOUR-STRAND SQUARE SINNET OR
   B. RATTAIL.

   SEA-GOING TARS FAVORED EELSKINS FOR COVERING THE QUEUE. THE SKINS WERE KEPT ABOARD IN BRINE. EACH WAS ROLLED UP AND SECURED AT THE TOP WITH RIBBON AND BOW.

5A.

5B.

#2

#3

#4

#5

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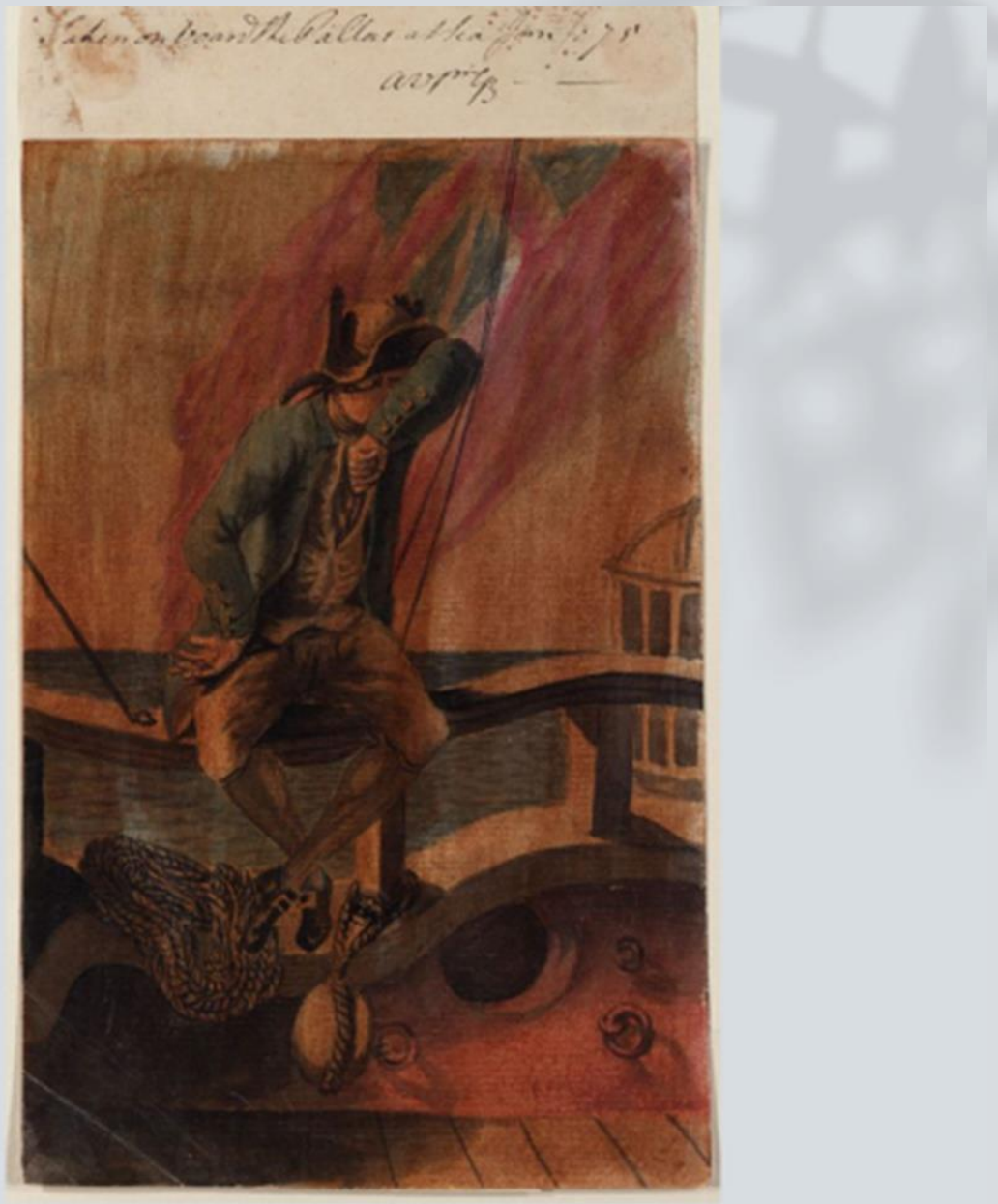

#6