

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION OF VIRGINIA  
HISTORICAL INVENTORY

23

COUNTY: Elizabeth City

CLASS: Home (Site)

--- "BIRTHPLACE OF GEORGE WYTHE" ---

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Research made by  
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Hampton, Virginia.

February 25, 1936.

## 1. SUBJECT:

"Birthplace of George Wythe"

## 2. LOCATION:

10 miles north of Hampton, Virginia, on the Harris Creek (a branch of Back Bay River)

## 3. DATE:

1726.

## 4. OWNERS:

Thomas Wythe -----

J. Luther Kibler -----

## 5. DESCRIPTION:

This was a small brick dwelling with dormer windows and a shed roof on one side.

## 6. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

George Wythe's grandfather, Thomas Wythe, came to Virginia in 1680. His father was named Thomas. George Wythe was born in this humble little dwelling in 1726. His early education was directed by his mother, Elizabeth (Walker) Wythe. He afterwards attended the College of William and Mary.

He was the first of Virginia's delegates in the Continental Congress to sign the Declaration of Independence. He was the author of the State seal of Virginia, with its classic motto: "Sic Semper Tyrannis."

George Wythe died in Richmond, Virginia, on June 8, 1806, and was buried in old St. John's Cemetery.

## 7. ART:

## 8. SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

Informant: J. Luther Kibler, Hampton, Virginia