

Reconstructions, exhibits, live drama, and talks by park interpreters give visitors to Fort Raleigh National Historic Site a richer understanding of the people who backed the colony from the safety of England and of those who lived and died at this site.

At the visitor center, the Elizabethan Room features the original oak paneling and stone fireplace from a 16th-century house of the kind lived in by the Roanoke colony investors. Also displayed are artifacts from the site, exhibits on the colonists and Elizabethan life, and

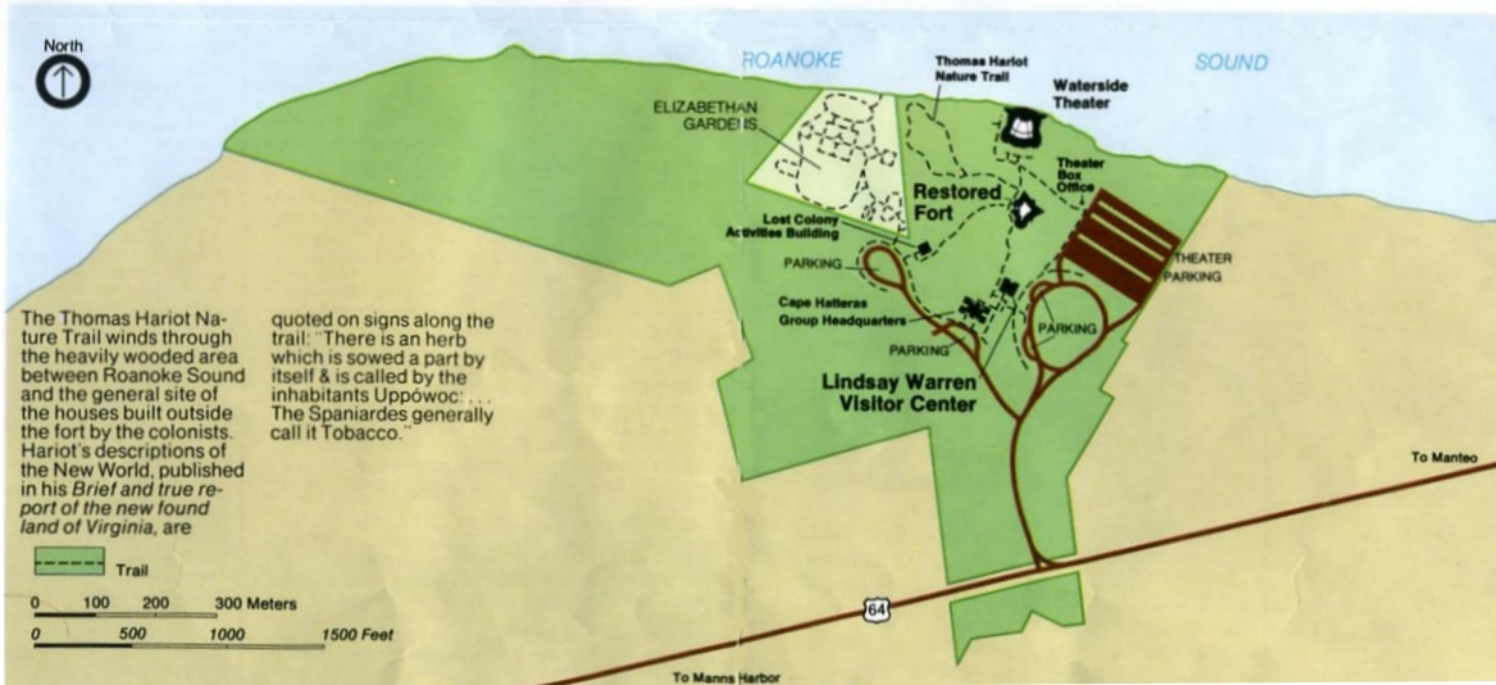
copies of the John White watercolors. A short film relates the story of both attempts to establish colonies.

*The Lost Colony*, which has been running since 1937, combines drama, music, and dance to tell the story of the ill-fated

1587 Roanoke colony. Pulitzer prize-winning dramatist Paul Green built this semi-fictional story from firsthand accounts. The play is produced each summer in the outdoor Waterside Theater by the Roanoke Island Historical Association. Dates and hours are

fixed by that organization. The Elizabethan Gardens were created by the Garden Club of North Carolina as a memorial to the first colonists and as an example of the gardens that graced the estates of the wealthy backers of the colony. Visitors enter

through a replica of a Tudor gate house and wander through a rich array of flowers that bloom throughout the year.



The Thomas Hariot Nature Trail winds through the heavily wooded area between Roanoke Sound and the general site of the houses built outside the fort by the colonists. Hariot's descriptions of the New World, published in his *Brief and true report of the new found land of Virginia*, are

quoted on signs along the trail: "There is an herb which is sowed a part by itself & is called by the inhabitants Uppowoc: . . . The Spaniards generally call it Tobacco."