

The original documents are located in Box 9, folder “4/7/76 - Photo for Adams Chronicle” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20506

THE CHAIRMAN

March 4, 1976

TO: Mr. John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

FROM: Ronald S. Berman
Chairman

SUBJECT: Request for Presidential Association with the Adams
Chronicles Series

Nature of Request

~~On behalf of all three funders of the Adams Chronicles--the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Atlantic Richfield Company--we wish to suggest that the President hold a reception in honor of the Series itself and of the talented people in the American television industry that have been involved in its production. Specifically, it would be an occasion for the President to meet and greet--with appropriate media coverage--a small number of the actors, directors, researchers, producers, and writers of the Series.~~

Background

(1) About the Series

The Adams Chronicles is the first major historical dramatic series ever to be produced by American television and its most ambitious venture to date. The thirteen-week series, which premiered on January 20th, traces the story of the Adams family through four generations and 150 years of American history, history which they played such a significant role in shaping. In telling the story of this remarkable family, which produced two Presidents, a Vice-President, a Secretary of State, ambassadors, and members of Congress, among others, the hour-long dramas bring



Mr. John O. Marsh, Jr.
March 4, 1976
Page 2

to life for this generation of viewers many of the formative events in our past.

It is a unique Series, which combines high drama with serious history, accurately recreated. In producing it, WNET/13 drew upon the talents of five producers, six directors and nine writers, already distinguished in popular entertainment; it made use of 1100 actors on 250 sets; and it exploited fully the human and archival resources of the Massachusetts Historical Society's special collection of Adams Papers. No television program in the United States has ever before brought together scholars and media talent into this kind of creative enterprise.

The Adams Chronicles was made possible by a cooperative venture, over a five year period, between a Federal agency, a private foundation, and a member of the corporate sector. The National Endowment for the Humanities provided a \$1 million outright grant and a further \$1.5 million to match private funds. \$1.5 million was contributed to the Endowment by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Atlantic Richfield Company made a grant of \$1.2 million directly to WNET for the Series' production.

(ii) National Impact of the Series

It is quite clear that the Adams Chronicles has already had extraordinary public impact and is, in fact, proving to be the television success of this Bicentennial year. It has broken numerous audience records all over the country and all indications now are that it will prove to be the highest-rated prime-time series in the history of public television. It will reach more people than any other single, federally sponsored, Bicentennial event.

Media coverage on the series has been of an unprecedented scope for any television program. Cleveland Amory, in the current (March 6) TV Guide writes: "Not only is this series by far the best thing to come out of the whole Bicentennial celebration, but it may well be, to date, television's finest 13 hours." Locally, The Washington Post has to date carried five major articles on the Series. The Washington Star called it "the best serious, ambitious recreation of history ever to appear on the American TV screen." The Series has received extensive coverage and unanimous praise in Time, Newsweek, the New York Times, and newspapers and magazines

Mr. John O. Marsh, Jr.
March 4, 1976
Page 3

throughout the country. The really extraordinary critical and popular acclaim for this "Bicentennial jewel," as the New York Times called it, is amply demonstrated in the enclosed book of clippings.

The impact of the Series will extend even beyond the programs themselves, for an estimated 400 colleges and universities throughout the country are offering a credit course associated with the Adams Chronicles, either on their campuses or through extension programs. Commercial publishers, recognizing the potential national interest in the programs, have produced a number of books to be read in conjunction with the Series. Currently these are among the top 10 in the non-fiction category of Publisher's Weekly's best-seller list. A special grant from NEH made possible the publication of a 16-page adult homeviewer guide and a 24-page teacher's guide which local PBS stations distribute free of charge in response to numerous requests.

Propriety of Presidential Participation

The Adams Series deals directly with those major ideological accomplishments which our Bicentennial celebrates, and it deals with them primarily in the context of the Presidency and the Congress. It seems proper for the President to associate himself in this way with the tradition of the Office, the events which created it, and the early giants who shaped it.

The Series represents something of a milestone in television development in this country. It seems appropriate for the President thus to acknowledge progress in this major industry--particularly since it occurs in that segment of the industry (public television) which is established by Federal legislation and profoundly influenced by Federal (NEH) support.

The Series is an established success and will have reached more people (here and in other countries) than any other single Bicentennial event. It seems attractive, therefore, for the President to be associated with the event by a formal gesture of recognition at its culmination.

Timing and Scope of Event

~~The final episode in the Adams Chronicles will be aired on April 13th, and, as the Series ends, there will undoubtedly be a great deal of favorable "summing up" in the media. A Presidential reception honoring~~



THE ADAMS CHRONICLES

APRIL 7

1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 401
Washington, D.C. 20036

324

March 24, 1976

Ms. Susan Porter
Social Secretary to the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ms. Porter:

Attached is material explaining in greater detail the reasons for the April 7 reception honoring the producers and stars of "The Adams Chronicles" television series. Also attached is a copy of the invitation list, and, of course, of the invitation.

The presence of President and Mrs. Ford at this event would be a greatest honor to the Bicentennial effort that is having such a great impact on Americans throughout the country. It is especially appropriate, in my view, that Mrs. Ford meet the women who are so now publicly recognized for their portrayal of another First Lady known for her wit, charm and strongly held views on the role of women -- Abigail Adams. David Birney, who portrays John Quincy Adams will also be present, as will other stars of the series, and very importantly, so will Ms. Virginia Kassel, creator and executive producer of "Chronicles." She made it all possible by her creativity, her sense of history and her determination for more than five years.



Ms. Susan Porter
March 24, 1976
page 2

I certainly hope that President and Mrs. Ford will be able to join us at Decatur House and that you will also join us.

If there are any further questions, please call on me at 457-6219 or at home 543-6345.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Duke". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Bill Duke

**Ms. Susan Porter
Social Secretary to the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D. C.**

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES

1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 401
Washington, D.C. 20036

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES

1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 401
Washington, D.C. 20036

K6
Adams
Chronicles
Presentation

March 24, 1976

Mrs. Sheila Weidenfeld
Press Secretary to the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Weidenfeld:

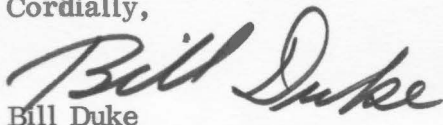
Kay Corcoran of WETA tells me she has spoken to you about the reception at the Decatur House April 7 to honor the stars and producers of the outstanding public television series, "The Adams Chronicles."

I do hope that President and Mrs. Ford can attend and that you will be able to come in any event. The purpose of this letter is first to send you samples of the notices this most popular public television series ever has received. Secondly, it is to advise you that both Kathy Walker and Leora Dana who portrayed Abigail Adams in the series will be present and are anxious to meet Mrs. Ford.

It seems to me that it would be very appropriate to arrange a meeting among Mrs. Ford and the two women who are now associated in the public mind with portraying Abigail Adams.

If there are any questions, please call me at 457-6219.

Cordially,


Bill Duke



*Invitation List
ADAMS Reception - 6-8 - April 7, 1976*

UNITED STATES SENATE

Robert C. Byrd
Edward W. Brooke
Charles McC. Mathias
Daniel K. Inouye
Gale W. McGee
Joseph M. Montoya
John L. McClellan
Ernest L. Hollings
Lawton Chiles
Milton R. Young
Roman Hruska
Clifford P. Hansen
Mark Hatfield
Jacob Javits
Edward M. Kennedy
Russell Long
Alan Cranston
Pete Domenici
Paul J. Fannin
Mike Gravel
Robert P. Griffin
Jennings Randolph
Harrison A. Williams
Claiborne Pell
Gaylord A. Nelson
Robert T. Stafford
Paul D. Laxalt
William D. Hathaway
Thomas L. Eagleton
Walter L. Mondale
Howard Baker
Dewey L. Bartlett
Ted Stevens
John V. Tunney
Henry L. Bellmon
J. Glenn Beall
Robert Taft, Jr.
Richard S. Schweiker
John A. Durkin
Hugh D. Scott, Jr.
Mike Mansfield

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Robert J. Cornell
William Lehman
Shirley Chisholm
Patsy T. Mink
John Brademas
Ralph S. Regula
Joseph M. McDade
Robert B. Duncan
John P. Murtha
K. Gunn McKay
Frank E. Evans
Sidney R. Yates
Clarence D. Long
Don Young
Al Wilman
Lionel Van Deerlin
Sam Steiger
Joe Skubitz
Harold Runnels
Fred R. Rooney
John Breaux
James A. Burke
Clarence J. Brown
James T. Broyhill
John B. Anderson
Corinne C. Boggs
William S. Moorhead
James M. Collins
James C. Corman
Millicent Fenwick
Barry M. Goldwater, Jr.
Lloyd Meeds
Carlos Moorhead
John J. Rhodes
Larry Pressler
Teno Roncalio
Manuel Lujan, Jr.
Mike McCormack
James M. Jeffords
Edward P. Beard
Leo C. Zeferetti
George Miller
Tim L. Hall
Alphonzo Bell
Peter A. Peyser
Barber Conable
Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
John J. McFall
Carl Albert
Robert H. Michel
John H. Roussetot
Paul Rogers

SENATE STAFF

Gregory Fusco	Minority Counsel	Special Subcommittee on Arts & Humanities
Livingston Biddle	Counsel	Special Subcommittee on Arts & Humanities
Hugh Branson	Administrative Assistant	Office of Senator Baker
Dwight E. Dyer	Counsel	Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies
James R. Calloway	Chief Counsel	Committee on Appropriations

HOUSE STAFF

Jack Duncan	Counsel	Subcommittee on Select Education
Martin L. LaVor		Subcommittee on Select Education
J. David Willson	Counsel	Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies
Byron Nielson	Counsel	Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies
Yvonne Franklin Smith	Minority Legislative Associate	Office of Albert H. Quie

FEDERAL OFFICIALS

William E. Simon	The Secretary of the Treasury	
William T. Coleman, Jr.	The Secretary of Transportation	
Thomas S. Kleppe	The Secretary of the Interior	
Elliott Richardson	The Secretary of Commerce	
Rogers C.B. Morton	Counsellor to the President	
John T. Marsh	Counsellor to the President	
William Baroody	Assistant for Public Liaison	
Russell Rourke	Executive Assistant to the Counsellor to the President	
Douglas P. Bennett	Special Assistant to the President	
Frank Zarb	Administrator	Federal Energy Administration
John Hill	Federal Energy Administration	
Nancy Hanks	Chairman	National Endowment for the Arts
Russell Peterson	Chairman	Council on Environmental Quality
Robert C. Seamans, Jr.	Administrator	Energy Research & Development Adm.
Gorman Smith	Federal Energy Administration	
Ron Coleman	U.S. Department of the Interior	
Jean McKee	Deputy Administrator	American Revolution Bicentennial Adm.

AC STARS

Charles Siebert
George Grizzard
Pamela Payton-Wright
Leora Dana
Kathryn Walker
John Houseman
Peter Brandon
William Daniels
Nancy Coleman
Mr. (& Mrs.) David Birney

ARCO STAFF

R.W. Rood
D.A. Henriksen
Robert O. Anderson
J.P. Downer
T.L. Bradshaw
J.W. Gendron
W.M. Marcussen
W.G. Shain

NEH STAFF

Leonard Oliver
Joseph Schurman
Joseph Hagan
Dr. & Mrs. Ronald S. Berman
Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Kingston
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Rabin
Harold Cannon
John H. Barcroft
Simone Reagor
J. Leeds Barroll
Armen Tashdian
Arlene Koringold
Mr. & Mrs. Darrel de Chaby
Alfred Rotondaro
Alexander Lacy
Abraham Ascher

MELLON STAFF

John E. Sawyer
David Saltonstall
C.S. Tager

WNET STAFF

John Jay Iselin
Richard Depew
Stella Frishberg
Angela Solomon
Jeanne Mulcahy
Joan Mack
Betty Gerendasy
Jac Venza
Danforth Fales
Virginia Kassel
Robert Kotlowitz

ADAMS FAMILY

Mr. & Mrs. James B. Ames
Mr. & Mrs. John Adams
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Adams
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Boylston Adams
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Boylston Adams
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Francis Adams
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Gilbert
Mr. & Mrs. John Quincy Adams
Mary Abbott
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Nelson Perkins
Dr. & Mrs. John Abbott
Mr. & Mrs. George Homans
Mr. & Mrs. Elliott Perkins

PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Ralph Rogers
Henry Loomis
Lawrence K. Grossman
Robert S. Benjamin
Gerald Slater
Steven Ailes
Ward Chamberlain

OTHER

Frank Ikard
Henry B. Weaver
Mr. & Mrs. William D. Ruckelshaus
Fred Schwengel
Al Zack
Marc Friedlaender
John D. Rockefeller, III
Grace Sloan Vance
Arthur J. Rosenthal
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Mason
Alfred L. Browne
Stephen T. Riley
Lyman Butterfield

OTHER

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Zelenko
Robert J. Taylor
Arthur Thornhill
Gilmer McCormick
Patricia Elliott
John Beal
Ethan Allen Hitchcock
George T. Piercy
John S. Crowley
Thomas W. Moore

PRESS

Donald Sanders, AP
William M. Marvel, National Observer
Reed Whittemore, New Republic
Linda Charlton, New York Times
Dean Reed, Newhouse News Service
Mel Elfin, Newsweek
Bonnie Angelo, Time Magazine
David Anderson, UPI
Robert Andrews, UPI
William MacDougall, U.S. News & World Report
Ann Crutcher, Washington Star
Judy Flander, Washington Star
Frank Getlein, Washington Star
Bernie Harrison, Washington Star
Philip M. Kadis, Washington Star
Susan Antigany, Washington Post
John Carmody, Washington Post
Tom Shales, Washington Post
Pam Small, Washington Post
Jean M. White, Washington Post
John Limpert, Washingtonian Magazine

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MRS. FORD

EVENT: "Adams Chronicles" Photo

DATE: Wednesday, April 7, 1976

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Blue Room, State Floor

GUESTS: Leora Shepherd Dana, portrayed Abigail Adams
Virginia Weltmen Kassel, Executive Producer, "Chronicles"
Joseph P. Downer, Executive Vice President, Atlantic
Richfield Company
Ronald S. Berman, Chairman, National Endowment for Humanities
Also attending: William E. Duke, Atlantic Richfield
Darrell E. deChaby, Endowment for Humanities

BACKGROUND: The Adams Chronicles is the first major historical dramatic series ever to be produced by American television and its most ambitious venture to date. The thirteen-week series, which premiered on January 20th, traces the story of the Adams family through four generations and 150 years of American history, history which they played such a significant role in shaping. In telling the story of this remarkable family, which produced two Presidents, a Vice-President, a Secretary of State, ambassadors, and members of Congress, among others, the hour-long dramas bring to life for this generation of viewers many of the formative events in our past.

The Adams Chronicles was made possible by a cooperative venture, over a five year period, between a Federal agency, a private foundation, and a member of the corporate sector. The National Endowment for the Humanities provided a \$1 million outright grant and a further \$1.5 million to match private funds. \$1.5 million was contributed to the Endowment by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Atlantic Richfield Company made a grant of \$1.2 million directly to WNET for the Series' production.

All associated with the Adams Chronicles are in town to attend a special reception honoring the Series at the Decature House tonight attended by members of the House and Senate and other guests. While they are in town, they would like to present to you copies of the books which have come out of this series which are: The Adams Chronicles; The Book of Abigail and John; and The World of the Adams Chronicles Forging our Nation. They will also present the John Adams Bicentennial Medal.

SEQUENCE:

3:00 p.m. When your guests have assembled, Susan Porter will escort you to the Blue Room for photographs with Abigail Adams in front of the John Quincy Adams portrait.

Abigail (Leora Dana) will present to you copies of the three books which have come out of the television series and the medal.

3:10 p.m. At the conclusion of the photographs, you will be escorted back to the residence.

NOTE: -Open press coverage
-No refreshments

~~Susan Porter~~
April 7, 1976

“The Adams Chronicles” Reception

Wednesday, April 7

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Decatur House
704 Jackson Place, N. W.

Ms. Fran Paris

Please present this card at the door. Not transferable

Mr. Robert O. Anderson
Chairman of the Board
Atlantic Richfield Company

Dr. Ronald S. Berman
Chairman
National Endowment for the
Humanities

request the pleasure of your company

at a reception honoring

“The Adams Chronicles”

Wednesday, April 7

Decatur House

6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

“The Adams Chronicles,”
a production of

WNET/13, New York, is transmitted nationally by the
Public Broadcasting Service. The series
is made possible by grants from the
National Endowment for the Humanities,
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and
Atlantic Richfield Company.

R.S.V.P.

Ms. Fran Paris
Assistant Press Secretary to the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D. C.

"The Adams Chronicles"
1346 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Suite 401
Washington, DC 20036

For immediate release
Wednesday, April 7, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of Mrs. Ford's Press Secretary

At 3:00 P.M. today, April 7, Mrs. Ford will be greeting members of The Adams Chronicles television series in the Map Room at the White House.

Press Pick-up at 2:50 P.M.

at 4:00 P.M., April 7, Mrs. Ford will greet 50 Cherry Blossom Princesses on the South Portico of the White House for a photo session.

Press Pick-up at 3:50 P.M.

#

3:00

Map Room

Leora Dana -- Actress, N.Y. City, Abigail from Middle age to old age
(in costume)

Mrs. Virginia Cassel -- Creator of series and executive producer
at WNET in New York

Joseph T. Downer, Executive Vice President of Atlantic Richfield
Bill Duke

Camerman -- James H. Pickerell of June 9, 1936/ Dayton, Ohio
(card index)

David Burney --John Quincy Adams through adult life

Present -- John Adams Medals from the mint presented to Mrs. Ford
(by Ms. Dana)

The Adams Chronicles by Jack Shepherd

The Book of Abigail and John (Harvard University Press) (Letters)

The World of the Adams Chronicles Forging our Nation (series)

Before reception honoring the series

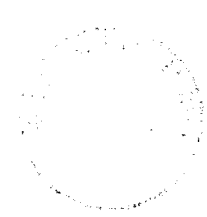
White House Tour tomorrow

Director, Federal Government Affairs

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



First Lady Betty Ford shows a painting of Abigail Adams to Leora Dana, the actress who portrayed Abigail in the public television series "The Adams Chronicles." Miss Dana visited The White House prior to a reception in Washington honoring the 13-part series, its actors and actresses, and its producers. "The Adams Chronicles," which has drawn the largest audience of any series in US public television history, was produced by WNET/New York with grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Atlantic Richfield Company. The series is transmitted nationally by the Public Broadcasting Service.



THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



"THE ADAMS CHRONICLES" FACT SHEET

The Series "The Adams Chronicles" is history set to television -- a series of 13 60-minute dramas spanning the 150 years from 1750 to 1900 and detailing how four generations of the Adams family helped determine America's directions and legacy for the future. The series premiered on PBS January 20. The final episode will be broadcast at 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 13. An estimated four million viewers watched "The Adams Chronicles" each week. The series had the largest audience of any series in US public television history.

The Production "The Adams Chronicles" is a production of WNET/13, New York. Virginia Kassel is the series' producer and creator of the project.

The Underwriters "The Adams Chronicles" is made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Andrew W. Mellon Fountain and Atlantic Richfield Company.

Leora Dana Miss Dana Portrays Abigail Admas, wife of John Adams, from ages 44 to 73. She appears in episodes 5,6, and 8. Miss Dana made her Broadway theater debut in "Madwoman of Chaiolot" and went on to play numerous roles on and off Broadway in films and television. She won a Tony Award for her role as Elizabeth Edward in the Broadway show "The Last of Mrs.Lincoln."

The Reception The White House visit precedes a reception in Washington honoring the series, its actors and actresses, and its producers. The reception, which will be held at Decatur House, will be hosted by the National Endowment for the Humanities and Atlantic Richfield Company. Representatives of the series, public television officials, Members of Congress and federal officials are expected to attend.

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



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Kusty -
Film in
Photo Session
event

1/23/76

Sheila -

Here is the kit on "The
Adams Chronicle". This should
be a good one to feature - what
with it being an American Production
with grants from National Endowment for
the Humanities as well as being in
the Bicentennial year.

Also enclosing kits from "Upstairs
Downstairs". The 3 pointed out ones
be coming to Washington later on.

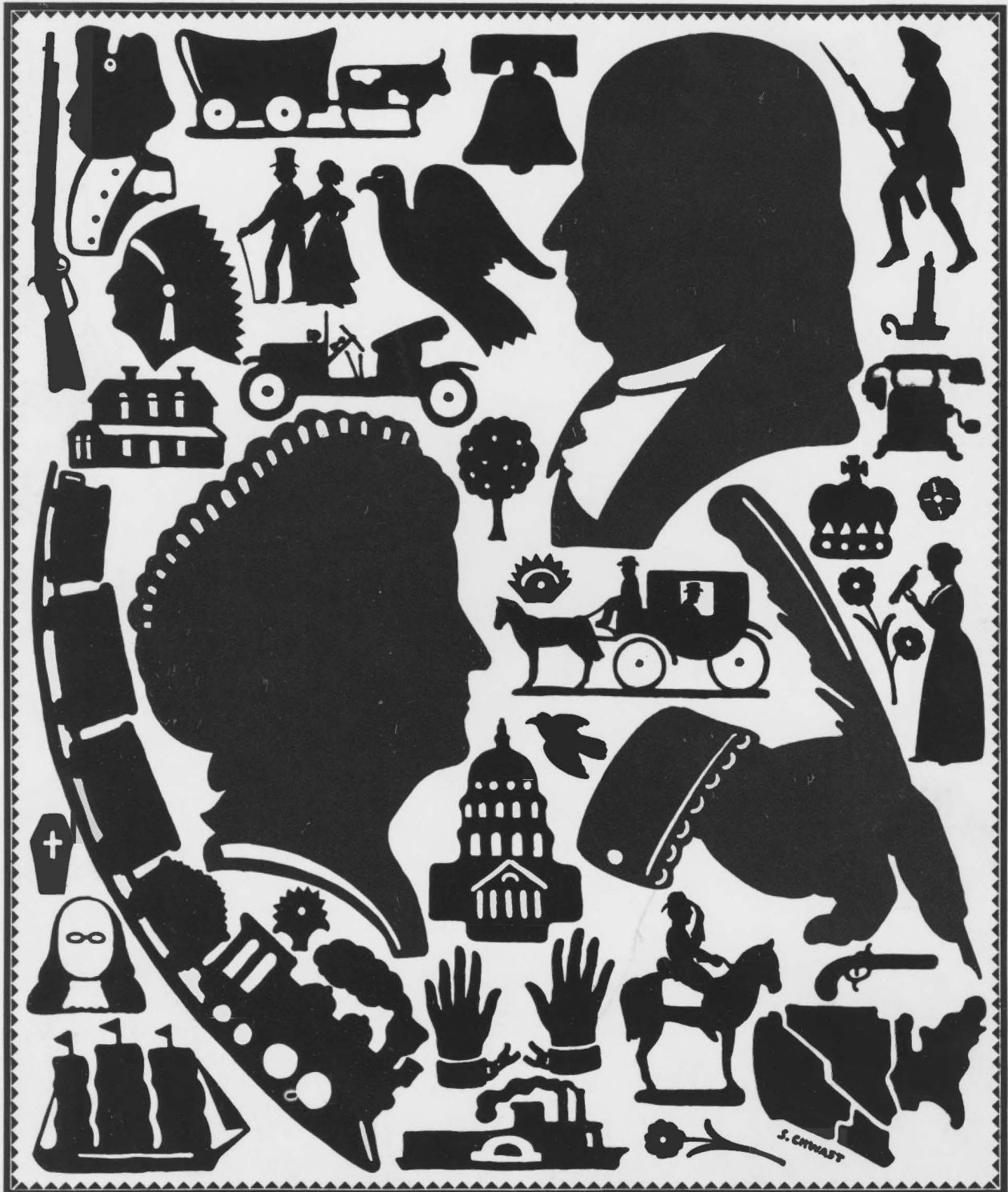
Thank.

Kay Carson



The Adams Chronicles

PRODUCED BY WNET/13 FOR PBS



GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

The item described below has been transferred from this file to:

- Audiovisual Unit
 Book Collection
 Ford Museum in Grand Rapids

Item: 11 8"x10" BW photos concerning the television series
"The Adams Chronicles", BF had photos taken with
the cast at The WH on 4/7/76
no credits

The item was transferred from: Weidenfeld Box 9
4/7/76 The Adams Chronicles.

Initials/Date

Let Hoo

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



Special Press Representative
Ben Kubasik Inc.
 25 West 43 St.
 New York, N.Y. 10036
 (212) 354-7835

For WNET:
Angela Solomon
 WNET/13
 356 West 58 St.
 New York, N.Y. 10019
 (212) 262-8256

THE ADAMS FAMILY: FOUR GENERATIONS

	<u>CHARACTER</u> (episodes and ages)	<u>PERFORMER</u>
I.	JOHN ADAMS eps 1-6,8,9; ages 23-91	George Grizzard
	ABIGAIL ADAMS eps 1-4, ages 18-44 eps 5,6,8,9; ages 44-73	Kathryn Walker Leora Dana
	Abigail Adams II (daughter) ep 2, ages 2-6 eps 2,3; ages 9-16 eps 4,6; ages 19-32	Tammy Heinz Lisa Lucas Katharine Houghton
	John Quincy Adams (son) ep 2, age 3 ep 2, ages 5-9 ep 3, ages 10-14 eps 4,5; ages 17-29	Marcel Trenchard Stephen Austin Steven Grover Mark Winkworth
	Charles Adams (son) eps 2,3; ages 4-11 ep 5, age 18	J.C. Powell Philip Anglim
	Thomas Adams (son) eps 5,6; ages 17-29 ep 8, age 45	Tom V.V. Tammi Richard Mathews
II.	JOHN QUINCY ADAMS ep 7, ages 36-48 eps 8-10, ages 50-81	David Birney William Daniels
	LOUISA CATHERINE ADAMS eps 7-10, ages 34-73	Pamela Payton-Wright
	Charles Francis Adams (son) ep 7, ages 5-8 ep 8, ages 10-13 ep 8-10, ages 14-36	Steven Krey Rodman Flender Thomas A. Stewart



(more)

FOUR GENERATIONS ... 2

II . (cont'd)	George Washington Adams (son) ep 8, age 16	David Elliott
	eps 8,9; ages 19-28	Peter Coffield
	John Adams II (son) ep 8, age 14	Tim Wilson
	eps 8-10, age 17-29	Allan Carlsen
III .	CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS eps 11-13, ages 54-79	John Beal
	ABIGAIL BROOKS ADAMS eps 11-13, ages 53-78	Nancy Coleman
	Henry Adams (son) ep 11, ages 23-25	Peter Brandon
	Charles Francis Adams II (son) ep 11, ages 26-28	Ron Siebert
	Mary Adams (daughter) ep 11, ages 16-18	Sandra Gartner
IV .	HENRY ADAMS eps 12,13; ages 32-55	Peter Brandon
	CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS II eps 12,13; ages 35-58	Charles Siebert
	John Quincy Adams II (brother to HA & CFA II) eps 12,13; ages 37-60	Nicholas Pryor
	Brooks Adams (brother to HA & CFA II) eps 12,13; ages 22-45	Charles Tenney
	Marian Hooper Adams (wife to HA) ep 12, ages 27-42	Gilmer McCormick

(more)

FOUR GENERATIONS . . . 3

IV. (cont'd)	Minnie Adams (wife to CFA II) eps 12,13; ages 27-50	Patricia Elliott
	Fanny Adams (wife to JQA II) eps 12,13; ages 30-53	Susan Bjurman

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



Special Press Representative
Ben Kubasik Inc.
 25 West 43 St.
 New York, N.Y. 10036
 (212) 354-7835

For WNET:
Angela Solomon
 WNET/13
 356 West 58 St.
 New York, N.Y. 10019
 (212) 262-8256

PRINCIPALS IN "THE ADAMS CHRONICLES"

(in alphabetical order)

Series Narrator (Episodes 1-13) . . . Michael Tolan

<u>CHARACTER</u>	<u>PERFORMER</u>
Ned Hooper	Gregory Abels
Andrew Jackson	Wesley Addy
The Dutch Banker	C.K. Alexander
James McHenry	Tom Aldredge
Mary Catherine Hellen Adams	Maureen Anderman
Charles Adams (age 18)	Philip Anglim
Mary Catherine Hellen (age 13)	Francine Applebaum
John Quincy Adams (ages 5-9)	Stephen Austin
Hotchkiss	Tom Bair
Bishop of St. Asaph	Thomas Barbour
Molly Adams	Julia Barr
Elizabeth Cameron	Nancy Barrett
Lord John Russell	Emery Battis
Charles Francis Adams (ages 54-79)	John Beal
James Barbour	Ralph Bell
John Quincy Adams (ages 36-48)	David Birney
Fanny Adams	Susan Bjurman
Ka-li	Don Blakely
Carver	Roberts Blossom
Galloway	Jonathan Bolt
John Marshall	John Braden
Henry Adams	Peter Brandon
W.H. Holcomb	James Broderick
Susan B. Clark	Blair Brown
Pinckney	Roger Alan Brown
Samuel Adams	W.B. Brydon
Cinque	Norman Bush
President Monroe	Henry Butler

PRINCIPALS . . . 2

CHARACTER

PERFORMER

John Adams II (ages 17-29)	Allan Carlsen
William Wirt	Ralph Clanton
William Seward	Alexander Clark
George Washington Adams (ages 19-28)	Peter Coffield
Abigail Brooks Adams	Nancy Coleman
James Lovell	James Congdon
Col. William Stephens Smith	Richard Cox
Benjamin Moran	Ed Crowley
Henry Gilpin	Terrence P. Currier
Abigail Adams (ages 44-73)	Leora Dana
John Quincy Adams (ages 50-81)	William Daniels
Louis XVI	Lance Davis
John Hancock	Curt Dawson
Chief Justice Taney	Ronald Dawson
Lewis Tappan	Jerome Dempsey
Hinch	Jack Dingle
Mme. Brillon	M'el Dowd
Letitia	Kate Draper
Photographer	William Duell
Monckton Milnes	Myles Eason
Speaker #2	George Ede
General Knox	Michael Egan
Countess de Vergennes	Taina Elg
George Washington Adams (age 16)	David Elliott
Minnie Adams	Patricia Elliott
Charles Francis Adams (ages 10-13)	Rodman Flender
Manservant	Ronald Cordell Frazier
Countess Rostov	Valerie French
Cathleen	Catherine Gaffigan
William H. Crawford	Chris Gampel
Mary Adams	Sandra Gartner
Burrill	Robert Gerringer
Anglican Minister	Douglas Gordon
John Adams (ages 23-91)	George Grizzard
John Quincy Adams (ages 10-14)	Steven Grover
Lord Camarthen	Jack Gwillim

PRINCIPALS . . . 3

<u>CHARACTER</u>	<u>PERFORMER</u>
Henry Clay	George Hearn
Jay Gould	Paul Hecht
Nabby (Abigail Adams II) (ages 2-6)	Tammy Heinz
Frederick L. Ames	Alan Hewitt
Capt. Beckford	Barton Heyman
Capt. Hay	Alfred Hinckley
Alexander Alison	Patrick Hines
Senator Maclay	Jack Hollander
George Washington	David Hooks
Lord Howe	Patrick Horgan
Lt. Mountgarret	John Horn
Nabby (Abigail Adams II) (ages 19-32)	Katharine Houghton
Justice Gridley	John Houseman
Student	Thomas Hulce
Princess of Orange	Cavada Humphrey
Duchess of Exeter	Katherine Hynes
Old Englishwoman	Anne Ives
General Caulaincourt	Michael Kane
James Madison	Ken Kercheval
Arthur Lee	Richard Kneeland
Charles Francis Adams (ages 5-8)	Steven Krey
Woman Tavernkeeper	Jeanette Landis
Clara Hay	Sharon Laughlin
Daniel Webster	Michael Levin
Senator Izard	Karl Light
John Hay	Tom Ligon
Tsar Alexandre I	Christopher Lloyd
Mrs. Bingham	Jane Lowery
Nabby (Abigail Adams II) (ages 9-16)	Lisa Lucas
James Forrest	Pirie MacDonald
Marian Hooper Adams	Gilmer McCormick
Eldridge Gerry-Peace Delegate	Tom McDermott
Sir Clement Cotterell Dormer	Don McHenry
Roger Sherman Baldwin	Bernie McInerney
Voice # 6	Pat McNamara
General C.C. Pinckney	John McQuade
Mrs. Smith	Nancy Marchand

<u>CHARACTER</u>	<u>PERFORMER</u>
Cornwall Lewis	Tom Martin
Thomas Adams (age 45)	Richard Mathews
Senator Hoar	Walter Mathews
Nurse	Katherine Meskill
Senator Bayard	Robert Moberly
Prof. Josiah Willard Gibbs	Earle Montgomery
Sparhawk	Donald C. Moore
Vanderbilt Representative	George Morfogen
Spofford	Brooks Morton
President Lincoln	Stephen D. Newman
Jonathan Sewall	James Noble
Oliver Wolcott	David O'Brien
John Quincy Adams (ages 10-14)	Tim Ousey
Russell Jarvis	Edwin Owens
Louisa Catherine Adams	Pamela Payton-Wright
Henry Goulburn	George Pentecost
John C. Calhoun	Robert Phalen
Rev. Smith	Addison Powell
Charles Adams (ages 4-11)	J.C. Powell
Slate	Alek Primrose
Benjamin Stoddert	Robert Prosky
John Quincy Adams II	Nicholas Pryor
Maitre d'hotel	Frederick Rolf
Senator Langdon	Rex Robbins
Josiah Quincy	Reno Roop
Polly Jefferson	Robin Pearson Rose
Lord Russell's Aide	Ken Scott
Lord Derby	Stephen Scott
Representative Fisher	Richard Seff
George Sullivan; Crane	Roger Serbagi
Timothy Pickering	Reid Shelton
Patrick Henry	William Shust
Charles Francis Adams II (ages 35-58)	Charles Siebert

CHARACTER

PERFORMER

Charles Francis Adams II (ages 26-28)	Ron Siebert
Reverend Duche	Robert Snively
Charles Lee	Josef Sommer
Count de Vergennes	Guy Sorel
Chancellor Rumyantsev	Paul Sparer
Sidney Dillon	Edwin Steffe
Mrs. Hawkins	Helen Stenborg
Alexis de Tocqueville	Jean-Pierre Stewart
Charles Francis Adams (ages 14-36)	Thomas A. Stewart
Thomas Jefferson	Albert Stratton
Ames	Stephen Strimpell
Dr. Hooper	Sheppard Strudwick
Judge	Fred Stuthman
Alexander Hamilton	Jeremiah Sullivan
Benjamin Franklin	Robert Symonds
Representative Gilmer	David Tabor
Thomas Adams (ages 17-29)	Tom V.V. Tammi
Brooks Adams	Charles Tenney
Mrs. George Howard	Angela Thornton
Secretary	Kenneth Tigar
King George III	John Tillinger
Rep. Robert Letcher	Tom Toner
John Quincy Adams (age 3)	Marcel Trenchard
Francis Dana	James Tripp
M. Hauteval	Louis Turenne
Clerk #3	Paul Ukena
Albert Gallatin	Michael Wager
Abigail Adams (ages 18-44)	Kathryn Walker
State Department Official	John Wardwell
Samuel Otis	Fredrick Warringer
Mrs. Burrill	Patricia Wheel
Nurse	Kate Wilkinson
John Adams II (age 14)	Tim Wilson

PRINCIPALS . . . 6

CHARACTER

PERFORMER

John Quincy Adams (ages 17-29) Mark Winkworth
Morgan Representative Richard Woods
John Dickinson John Wylie

English Tailor Ed Zang
Pauline Kate Zentall

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



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Ben Kubasik Inc.
25 West 43 St.
New York, N.Y. 10036
(212) 354-7835

For WNET:
Angela Solomon
WNET/13
356 West 58 St.
New York, N.Y. 10019
(212) 262-8256

PRODUCTION CREDITS

The following is a complete list of credits for THE ADAMS CHRONICLES. Numbers following names denote episodes on which specific producers, directors, writers, etc., worked.

CREATOR AND SERIES PRODUCER

Virginia Kassel

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Jac Venza

COORDINATING PRODUCER

Robert Costello (1,2,9-13)

PRODUCERS

James Cellan Jones (11)
Fred Coe (9,10,12,13)
Robert Costello (3-8)
Jac Venza and Paul Bogart (1,2)

DIRECTORS

Paul Bogart (1,2)
James Cellan Jones (3,4,11)
Fred Coe (9,10,12,13)
Barry Davis (5,6)
Bill Glenn (8)
Anthony Page (7)

WRITERS

Anne Howard Bailey (5)
Sam Hall (12)
Roger O. Hirson (11,13)
Ian Hunter (8)
Corinne Jacker (6)
Millard Lampell (4)
Tad Mosel (9,10)
Philip Reisman Jr. & Sam Hall (7)
Sherman Yellen (1,2,3)

(more)

PRODUCTION CREDITS . . . 2

ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS

George Barimo (1-6, 11)
John Neukum (7-10, 12, 13)

STORY CONSULTANT

Jacqueline Babbin

STORY EDITOR & NARRATION

Anne Howard Bailey

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Ed Wittstein

COSTUMES DESIGNED BY

Alvin Colt

CASTING DIRECTOR

Jay Wolf

LIGHTING DIRECTORS

Dave Clark (8)
Billy Knight (1-4, 7-13)
George McKinnon (5, 6, 11)
George Riesenberger (1-6, 9, 10)
Dick Weiss (7, 11-13)

MUSIC COMPOSED & CONDUCTED BY

John Morris

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

Doug Lutz

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Bob Spitzer

STUDIO MANAGER

Gene San filippo

LOCATION PRODUCTION MANAGERS

Richard Romagnola (3-7, 9-13)
William Siegler (1, 2, 8)

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Paul Davis (7)
John Edwards (8-10, 12, 13)
Robert Hankal (1-6, 11)

ASSISTANT PROJECT DIRECTOR

Betty Gerendasy

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS

Ellen Barrett (5, 6)
Eileen Furey (8)
Kerry Herman (9, 10, 12, 13)
Lynn Hott (1, 2)
Joan Kennedy (11)
Harriet Rohr (1, 3, 4)
Barbara Teller (7)

(more)

PRODUCTION CREDITS . . . 3

ASSISTANT SET DESIGNERS

Warren Clymer (1-13)
Sheldon Haber (7)
Douglas Higgins (1-6, 8-10)
Don Swanagan (9, 10, 12, 13)
Robert Wightman (5, 6, 11-13)

ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNERS

Harry Curtis (7, 11-13)
Domingo Rodriguez (1-6, 8-10)

MAKE-UP

Joe Cranzano (8-10)
Max Henriquez (7, 12, 13)
Margaret Sunshine (1-6, 11)

HAIR DESIGNERS

Bob Grimaldi (7-10, 12, 13)
Joe Tubens (1-6, 11)

WARDROBE

George Newman
Marilyn Putnam

MUSIC PRODUCER

John Adams

MUSIC SUPERVISOR

Sybil Weinberger

CASTING ASSISTANT

Lucille Masone Cannon

CHOREOGRAPHER

George Bunt (7, 8)

ENGINEER IN CHARGE

Tom Farmer

OPENING CREATED BY

Girish Bhargava

VIDEOTAPE EDITORS

Girish Bhargava
Manfred Schorn

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Leonard Chumbley

AUDIO

Mike Shoskes

STAGE MANAGERS

Terry Benson (8-10, 12, 13)
Peter Jordan (7)
Tony Marshall (1-6, 11)

CAMERAMEN

Walter Edel
John Feher
Stephen Zink

GRAPHICS

Bill Mandel

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



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REMARKS BY VIRGINIA KASSEL

Virginia Kassel is creator and series producer of THE ADAMS CHRONICLES, WNET/13, New York's thirteen hour-long television dramas that span 150 years in the lives of four generations of the historic Adams family of Massachusetts. The series will premiere at 9:00 PM, ET, on Tuesday, January 20, 1976, on the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). (Editors: Please check your local PBS station schedule for area broadcast information.)

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES is made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Atlantic Richfield Company.

Although THE ADAMS CHRONICLES is being heralded as Public Television's major bicentennial offering for 1976, the concept for a television series based on John and Abigail Adams and their descendants was first conceived in December, 1969, long before our nation became so very preoccupied with its 200th birthday.

Six years ago, I repeatedly was asked why the Adams family should be the focus for an ambitious series. The reasons stand on their own -- bicentennial or no.

The particular history of the Adamses parallels the history of our nation. For 150 years, between 1750 and 1900, the Adams family exerted great influence on some of our country's most dramatic historical events. The public story is told by the very titles the Adamses held: delegate to the first and second Continental Congresses, Commissioner to France during the Revolutionary War,

(more)

First American Minister to Great Britain, first Vice-President, second President, Minister to Prussia and Russia, Secretary of State, sixth President, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Minister to Great Britain during the Civil War, officers in the Union Army, financier and historian.

A listing of this sort does not do justice even to the public life of the Adamses. For there is far more to be known about how they conducted themselves for what they believed was the good of our nation. THE ADAMS CHRONICLES will show us that -- and much more.

The "weight" of history on the family's private lives -- brought on by their unwavering sense of duty, honor and justice, which were real, not empty, concepts for them -- often exacted tolls on husbands, wives, and children. John Adams had a son who was the sixth President of the United States; he had another who died an alcoholic at the age of thirty.

As we watch the interaction between the public and the private, between their influences on our nation's history and that nation's history on them, we will see history in far less abstract terms than as impersonal sentences in a book. Just as our own futures are linked with our jobs, the Adamses served the growth of a new nation with their daily lives and daily routine. Their business was the business of the nation.

Had we created a fictional American family to do a comparable series, we could not have begun to offer the wealth of true -- and truly dramatic -- material that we find in the documented history of the Adams family. Drama often pales next to the deeds of these real people in political life.

(more)

In a fictional series, how many viewers would believe that men like John Adams and Thomas Jefferson would both die on the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence? Adams's last words were, "Jefferson still lives." In fact, Jefferson had died only hours before.

John Quincy Adams, called the American Job because of the frustrating years he spent as President and the deaths of two of his sons, achieved his greatest recognition after his election to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he spent the last seventeen years of his life. Critics would accuse us of straining credulity for "arranging" him to suffer a fatal heart attack on the floor of the House, and for his last words to be, "This is the end of earth ... I am composed."

Both John Adams and John Quincy Adams were the first two Presidents not to be elected for a second term -- a bitter dose in real life, but, in fiction, perhaps a bit too "dramatic."

Long separations were suffered by husbands and wives, with the interests of sensitive children overlooked by the Adams's all-pervading sense of duty to the country and politics. John Quincy and his wife, Louisa Catherine, had three sons, yet only one, Charles Francis Adams, grew into the Adams mold of "statesman." Of the other two, John II literally worked himself to death to help pay off the family debt, which was considerable, and George disappeared mysteriously off a boat -- either he fell off the side in a distressed fantasy or as a suicide.

When we look back to make sense out of history, we profit from our sense

(more)

of perspective. The Adamses had no such perspective -- looking ahead as they did only to an uncertain future. We know that America's independence movement was a success story, but John Adams, born a loyal Englishman, had to face the very real threat of being hanged as a traitor. When John Adams left Abigail and their children on their farm in Braintree to attend the Continental Congress in Philadelphia in 1774, he knew that the lives of his loved ones were in danger as British troops moved closer to the farm. Their day-to-day concerns were considerable, and THE ADAMS CHRONICLES shows them from the point of view of their uncertainty, fear, valor.

The full perspective of the Adams's past contributions and the course of the future will come near the end of THE ADAMS CHRONICLES when Henry and Charles Francis II look back on the philosophy of the Adamses and realize that it appears no longer relevant to a country entering the 20th century with values different from the ones by which their forbears lived their public and private lives.

Beyond the insights into our nation's history and the story of a brilliant family, it is my hope that THE ADAMS CHRONICLES will help give us an understanding of what goes into the decision-making process -- not just in the past but in our own lives and by our leaders today. For this reason, the series is more relevant now than if it had been produced in 1969. Although it is all so recent, how many remember, during the Watergate hearings, that one of the most widely quoted individuals -- about the course of the nation and what the people should expect from their leaders -- was John Adams?

At the time he wrote his ideas down, John Adams had no way of knowing

(more)

what kind of nation would emerge. He knew, however, that if it was to emerge and excel at all, it needed a firm foundation of ethics and standards on which to build. These principles and those of the generations after him often cost the Adamses their popularity and grieved their families. THE ADAMS CHRONICLES seeks to show, ultimately, this humanity -- this human cost that it took to make our nation great and, by implication and the examples of the Adamses, what the human cost must be to keep it so.



A dramatic series presented by WGBH, Boston, on PBS/Made possible by a grant from Mobil Oil Corporation

AIRDATE: JAN. 25

FOR USE AT WILL

LONDON RR STATION

DRESSED FOR TV ROLE

Marylebone Station in London is probably the only railway terminus in history to get into "costume" -- to play another railway station in a television series.

Producer John Hawkesworth needed to re-create a Charing Cross station atmosphere, circa 1914, for an episode of "Upstairs, Downstairs." Charing Cross itself is a very 1970s British Rail intercity express affair, having been modernized extensively over the years. So that was no good.

The only answer seemed to be building an expensive replica of the tiny (by Hollywood standards) London Weekend Television lot. Until someone had the bright idea of "borrowing" Marylebone Station for the day.

Tucked away northwest of the busy Oxford Street shopping area, in the vicinity of Baker Street and Madame Tussaud's, Marylebone Station went up in 19th century Victorian England, and remains a barely-altered monument of that era.

(More)

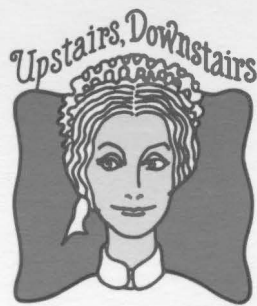
Once British Rail chiefs had agreed to loan the station exterior and part of the interior, including two whole platforms, props man Rex Dutton set to work "dressing" his star for the key scenes in a major episode of the Mobil-funded series seen at on Masterpiece Theatre on PBS. In the episode, Georgina Worsley (Lesley Anne Down) witnesses horribly injured troops arriving back from France at Charing Cross, and decides on the spot to become a nurse.

Rex found the job mercifully simple. "All we had to do was take down the modern signs and cover up the current posters with replicas of 1914-18 posters we bought at the Imperial War Museum," he explained. "Then we added an old newspaper and confectionary kiosk I had specially built from old pictures. We put up dummy gaslamps here and there and that was that."

The scene calls for a train to steam into a platform to disgorge the wounded. Rex and his resourceful men borrowed a set of 100-year-old carriages from a railway museum in Wales. Then they struck a hitch -- no suitable engine could be found to do the pulling. The answer lay in a plywood replica stuck on the front of the first carriage, while a modern diesel loco did the pushing from behind, well out of camera range.

While shooting was taking place, on a relatively quiet weekend, the public was warned to keep away from the area. One lady slipped the net . . . and promptly fainted when she caught sight of all the bloody corpses.

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A dramatic series presented by WGBH, Boston, on PBS/Made possible by a grant from Mobil Oil Corporation

FOR USE AT WILL

WORLD WAR ONE PUBLIC

DUPED BY PROPAGANDA

What's come over Hudson? What's turned that otherwise lovable, unflappable major domo of "Upstairs, Downstairs" into a nervous zealot convinced that enemies lurk in the most unlikely and innocent places?

Hudson's suffering from an acute attack of jingoism, brought on by World War One censorship and misinformation. And his case is typical of thousands of others who were carefully fed only what was "good" for them to know about their wartime allies and their enemies.

"The first World War, like all wars until Vietnam, was censored at the front," explains Alistair Cooke, host of the Mobil-funded series seen on PBS Masterpiece Theatre on *Sundays* at 7^{PM} on Channel 26.

We didn't have any seven o'clock news where we saw young men in Flanders saying the whole thing was an obscene shambles, and they didn't know what they were doing there," Cooke continues, citing the casualty rate for the first eight months of the war that serves as the backdrop for the current episodes of the Emmy Award-winning TV comedy-drama.

"By the spring of 1915, the allied armies had more than doubled the total casualties of the U.S. Civil War, "but we at home didn't know this, we knew as much as they wanted to tell us."

**Please check local PBS listings



(More)

Propaganda/2

So Hudson (Gordon Jackson), typical of similarly impressionable real-life citizens, took as gospel the propaganda that distorted some facts, concealed others, and vilified the enemy. Again, like Hudson, many people over-reacted--eschewing Beethoven because he was German, and conjuring up spies out of those with Germanic-sounding surnames, even if they had been good neighbors for years.

Later, in the U.S., the same sort of insanity prevailed--children no longer got German measles, and sauerkraut was rechristened Liberty cabbage.

"The job of the government at home, apart from organizing munitions and conserving food and so on," Cooke says, "was to ginger up morale and drum up recruiting by painting the Germans as a bestial race dedicated to smashing civilization."

So, it took no particular feat of the imagination--only a look at the record--for the "Upstairs, Downstairs" scriptwriters to spell out the irrational influence of unfounded rumor and wild witch-hunting that were the order of the day.

Not everyone succumbed--there were some cool heads like Hazel, Richard Bellamy's daughter-in-law, who found the downstairs staff so distraught by Hudson's "information" that she had to forbid the otherwise near-perfect butler to pass along such poppycock.

"This was the kind of thing that came at us," recalls Cooke. "First in scandal sheets and then in more and more respectable magazines. No wonder simple-minded patriots like Hudson became hysterical jingoes."

#

The Adams C

1750-1900

AN ORIGINAL PRODUCTION OF WNET/13





SERIES MADE POSSIBLE BY GRANT

THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES THE ANDREW W. M

ms Chronicles

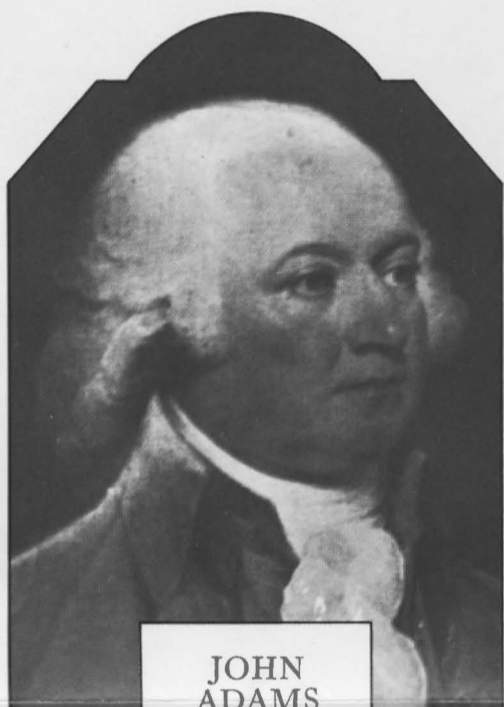
1750-1900

OF WNET/13 TUESDAYS AT 9 P.M. ON PBS



The Adams

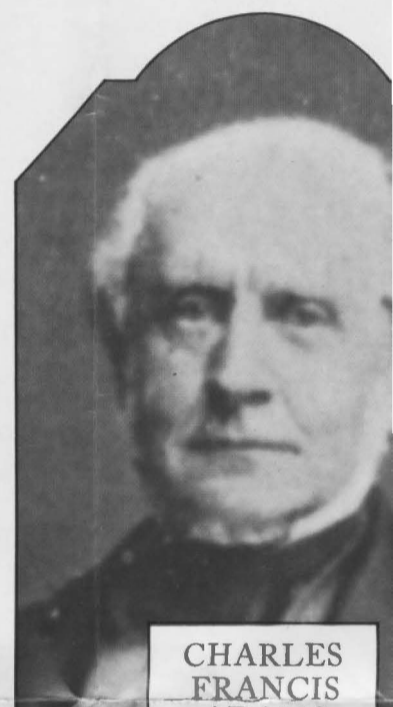
The story of the Adams family runs like a strength of character through the whole fabric



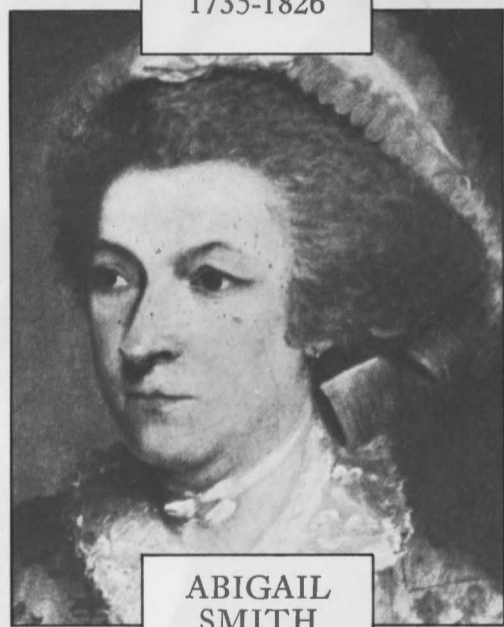
JOHN
ADAMS
1735-1826



JOHN
QUINCY
ADAMS
1767-1848



CHARLES
FRANCIS
ADAMS
1807-1886



ABIGAIL
SMITH
ADAMS
1744-1818



LOUISA
CATHERINE
ADAMS
1775-1852



ABIGAIL
BROOKS
ADAMS
1808-1889

CHAPTER

1

1758-1770

Begins law practice ; travels court circuit.
Marries Abigail Smith.
Daughter Abigail Adams II is born.
First son, John Quincy Adams is born.
Agrees to defend British soldiers accused in "Boston Massacre" case.

CHAPTER

2

1770-1776

Successfully defends British troops in "Boston Massacre" trials.
Elected to First and Second Continental Congress.
Proposes George Washington Commander-in-Chief of Continental Army.
Appointed President of Board of War and Ordnance.
Plays major role in drafting and adoption of Declaration of Independence.

CHAPTER

3

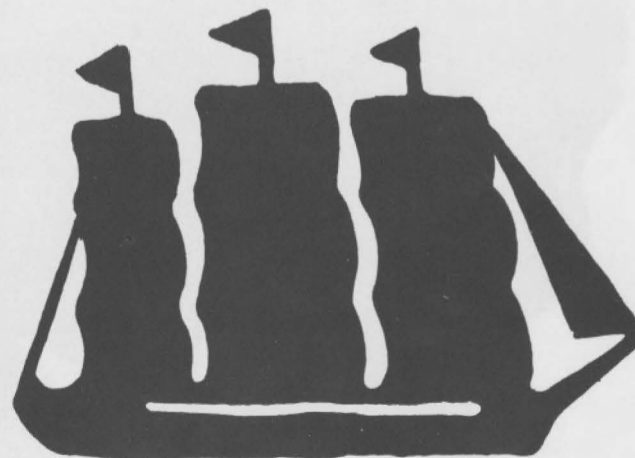
1776-1783

With Franklin, meets with British Admiral Lord Howe in Staten Island.
Appointed Joint Commissioner to France.
Obtains recognition and first loan to U.S. from the Netherlands.
With other Commissioners, signs peace treaty with Great Britain in Paris.

CHAPTER

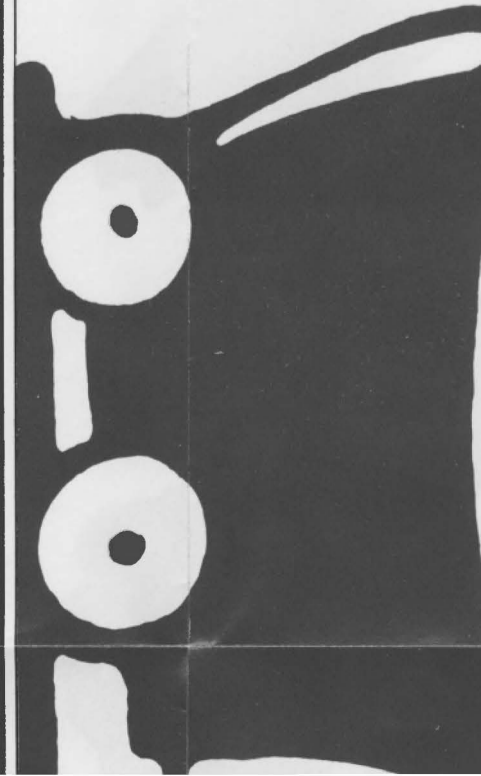
4

Re-union with family in London.
Family settles at Auteuil, France.
Appointed First American Minister to Great Britain and negotiates with George III.



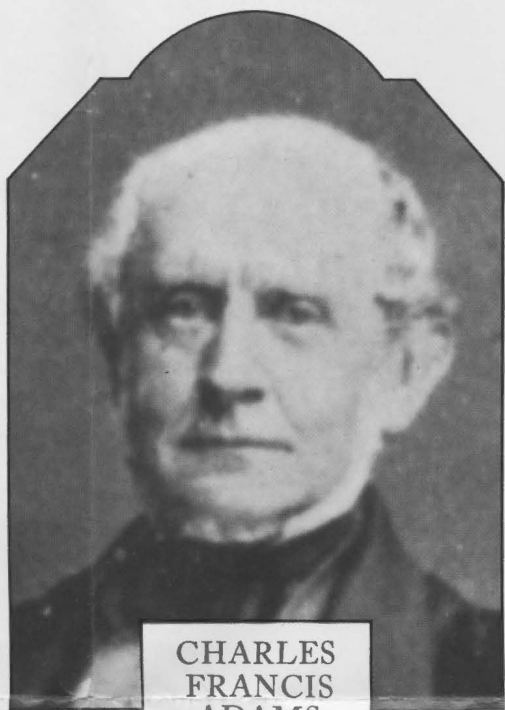
Travels with his father to France.
Accompanies his father to the Netherlands.
At age 14 is Secretary and interpreter to first U.S. Representative to Russia.

Reunited with family in London.
Lives with family in Auteuil, France.
Returns to U.S. alone ; lives with relatives.
Enters Harvard College in Junior class.

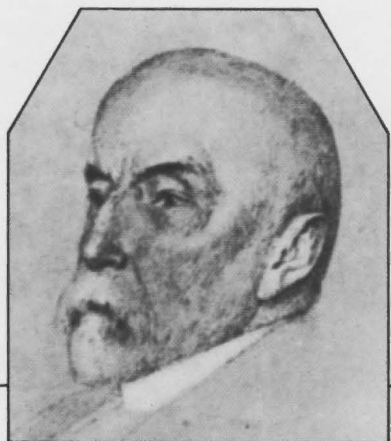


Adams Chronicles

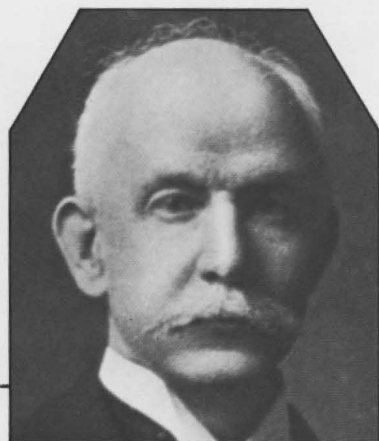
Family runs like a scarlet thread of moral courage and
 the whole fabric of American history. *John F. Kennedy (1961)*



CHARLES
FRANCIS
ADAMS
1807-1886



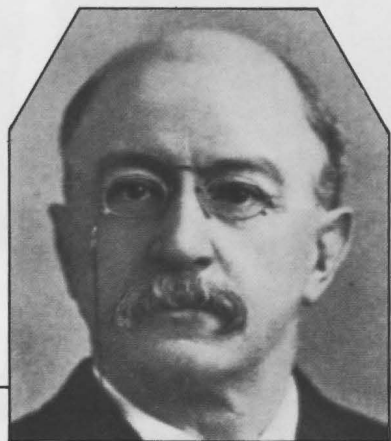
HENRY ADAMS
1838-1918



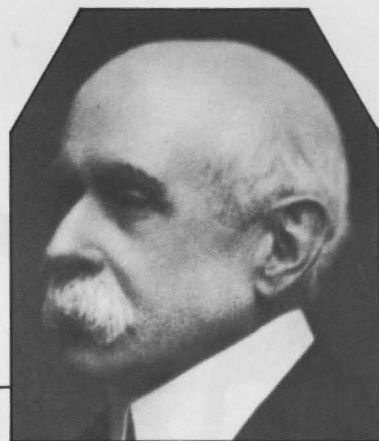
BROOKS ADAMS
1848-1927



ABIGAIL
BROOKS
ADAMS
1808-1889



JOHN QUINCY
ADAMS II
1833-1894



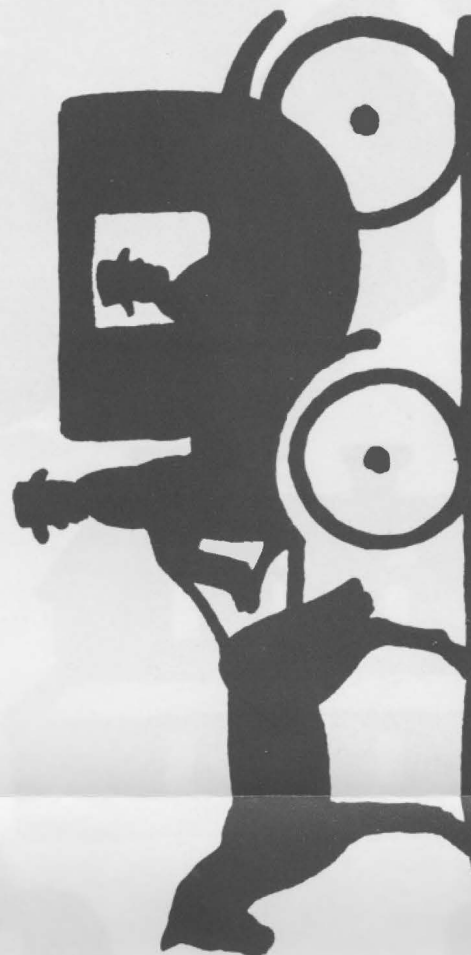
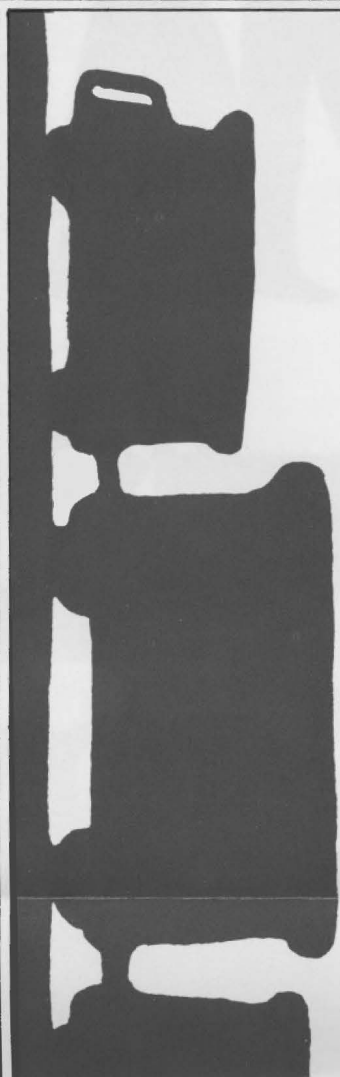
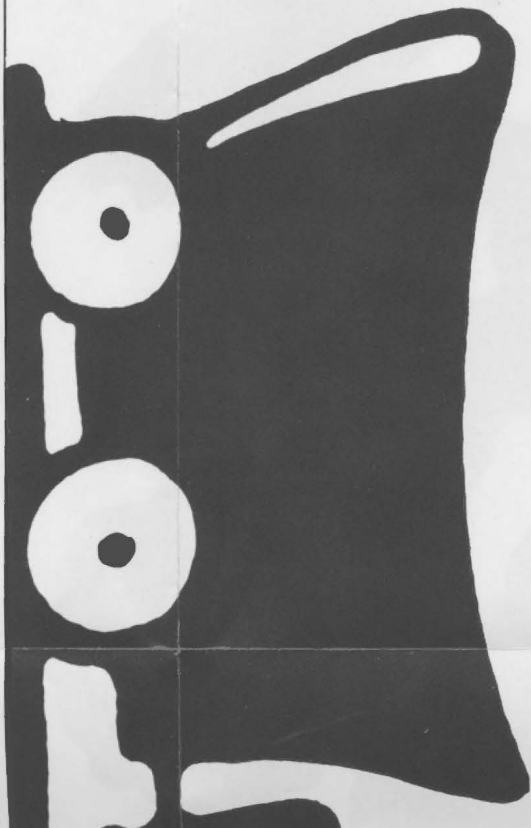
CHARLES FRANCIS
ADAMS II
1835-1915

Historical Events

French and Indian Wars.
 James Watt perfects
 steam engine.
 Reign of King George
 III.
 Sons of Liberty organized.
 Boston Massacre.
 Boston Tea Party.
 Reign of Louis XVI.
 1st Continental
 Congress.
 Battles of Lexington
 and Concord.
 Declaration of
 Independence.

Congress adopts Arti-
 cles of Confederation.
 Franco-American
 alliance.
 U.S. recognized by the
 Netherlands.
 Peace treaty signed
 between U.S. and
 Great Britain.

Constitutional Conven-
 tion.
 Shays' Rebellion.
 The Northwest
 Ordinance



3

1776-1783

Appointed Joint Commissioner to France.
Obtains recognition and first loan to U.S. from the Netherlands.
With other Commissioners, signs peace treaty with Great Britain in Paris.

CHAPTER

4

1784-1787

Re-union with family in London.
Family settles at Auteuil, France.
Appointed First American Minister to Great Britain; audience with George III.
AA II marries Col. Wm. S. Smith in London.
Arranges to buy new home in Braintree, Mass. in preparation for return to U.S.

At age 14 is Secretary and interpreter to first U.S. Representative to Russia.

Reunited with family in London.
Lives with family in Auteuil, France.
Returns to U.S. alone; lives with relatives.
Enters Harvard College in Junior class.
Graduates from Harvard; begins law studies.

CHAPTER

5

1788-1796

Returns to America; settles into new home.
Elected first Vice President.
Presides over Senate in first session of Congress.
Moves with AA to temporary new capitol, Philadelphia.
Re-elected Vice President.
Elected second President of U.S.

Visits parents on their return to U.S.
Opens law office in Boston.
Publishes various articles on politics.
Appointed Minister to the Netherlands.

CHAPTER

6

1797-1801

Takes Office as second President of U.S.
Delivers message to Congress on critical French situation; Quasi-War with France.
Signs Alien and Sedition Acts.
Sends successful 2nd peace mission to France.
First occupant of new Presidential Mansion in Washington.
Defeated for re-election by Jefferson.
Leaves Washington for retirement at Quincy.

Appointed Minister to Prussia.
Marries Louisa Catherine Johnson in London.
Travels with LCA throughout German states.
Returns to U.S.

CHAPTER

7

1809-1815

Abigail Adams dies at Quincy.

Commissioned Minister to Russia.
Sails with wife and youngest son to St. Petersburg.
Appointed to U.S. Supreme Court.
Declines appointment.
Heads U.S. delegation at Ghent negotiating peace treaty with Great Britain to end War of 1812.
Travels to Paris; reunited with LCA and CFA.
Appointed Minister to Great Britain.

Travels with parents to St. Peter
Travels with mother overland to later to London.

CHAPTER

8

1817-1825

John Adams dies on 50th Fourth of July.

Returns to U.S. as Secretary of State under President Monroe.
Signs Transcontinental Peace Treaty with Spain; U.S. border now extends to Pacific.
Prime participant in drafting Monroe Doctrine.

Returns with parents to Quincy.
Moves to Washington to live with
Enters Harvard College.

CHAPTER

9

1825-1829

Elected 6th President by House of Representatives.
Defeated for re-election by Andrew Jackson.
Son GWA dies; JQA returns to Quincy.

Studies law with Daniel Webster
Receives M.A. from Harvard.
Marries Abigail Brooks; settles in

CHAPTER

10

1830-1848

Elected to House of Representatives.
Begins fight for right of petition on slavery.
Proposes 3 amendments to end slavery in U.S.
Heads House Committee on Foreign Affairs.
Successfully defends Africans in *Amistad* case before Supreme Court.
Succeeds in having House "gag" rules withheld.
Votes against declaration of war with Mexico.
Collapses in House; dies in Speaker's Room.

Attorney at Massachusetts Supreme
Assumes management of family property in Quincy.
Elected to Massachusetts Legislature
opposes slavery.
Nominated as Vice President by "Free" Party.

CHAPTER

11

1861-1863

Serves in House as Representative from Massachusetts.
Appointed Minister to Great Britain
Succeeds in detaining "ironclads"
averts British intervention in Civil War.

CHAPTER

12

1870-1885

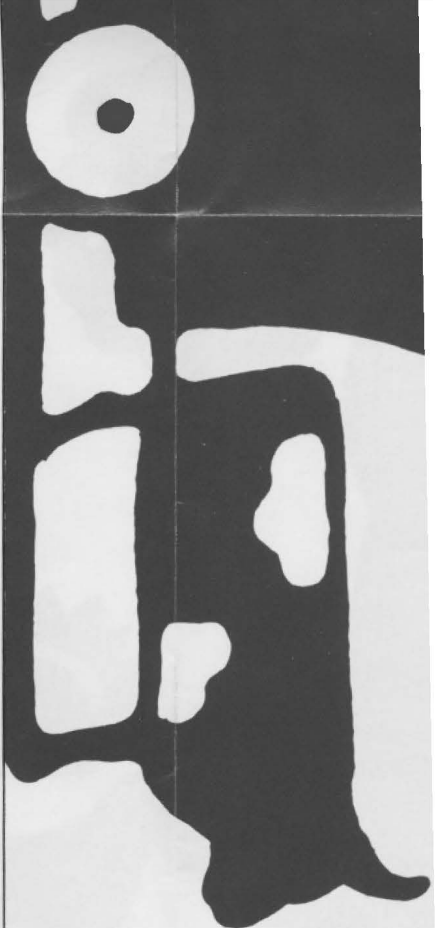
Represents U.S. at Geneva Claims Conference
Refuses to consider nomination as Governor
Publishes first volume of John Adams
Autobiography.
Nominated as Democratic candidate for
Governorship of Massachusetts.

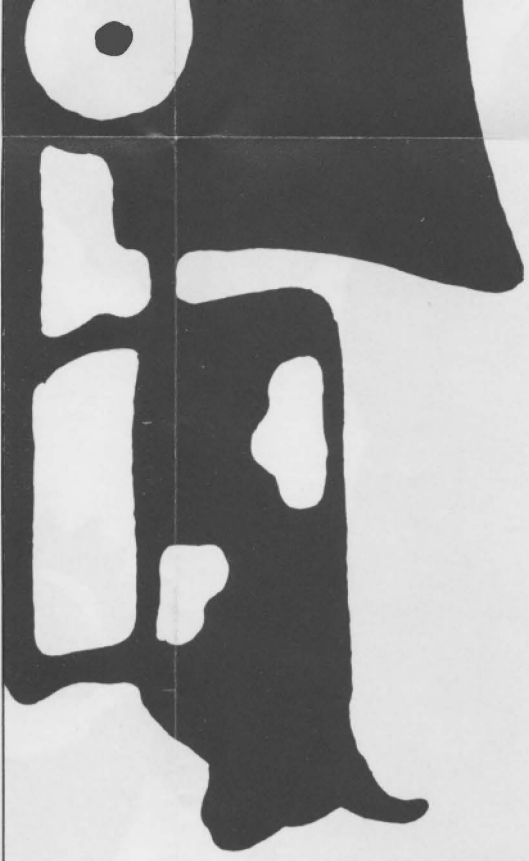
CHAPTER

13

1886-1893

Dies in Boston.





Travels with parents to St. Petersburg.
Travels with mother overland to Paris;
later to London.

Returns with parents to Quincy.
Moves to Washington to live with parents.
Enters Harvard College.

Studies law with Daniel Webster in Boston.
Receives M.A. from Harvard.
Marries Abigail Brooks; settles in Boston.

Attorney at Massachusetts Supreme Court.
Assumes management of family property
in Quincy.
Elected to Massachusetts Legislature; actively
opposes slavery.
Nominated as Vice President by "Free Soil"
Party.

Serves in House as Representative from
Massachusetts.
Appointed Minister to Great Britain.
Succeeds in detaining "ironclads" in England;
averts British intervention in Civil War.

Represents U.S. at Geneva Claims Arbitrations.
Refuses to consider nomination as Vice President.
Publishes first volume of John Adams'
Autobiography.
Nominated as Democratic candidate for
Governorship of Massachusetts.

Dies in Boston.



U.S. recognized by the Netherlands.
Peace treaty signed between U.S. and Great Britain.
Constitutional Convention.
Shays' Rebellion.
The Northwest Ordinance.

The French Revolution.
U.S. Constitution ratified.
George Washington becomes first President.
Federal Government organized in New York.
Philadelphia temporary U.S. capital 1790-1800.

XYZ Affair.
Washington, D.C. new U.S. capital.
Napoleon First Consul of France.
Early child labor regulation in England.

Russia and France at war.
Napoleon defeated at Waterloo.
Congress of Vienna.
War of 1812.
Presidency of James Madison.
Treaty of Ghent.

Michael Faraday develops electric motor and generator.
Seminole War; Spain cedes Florida.
Missouri Compromise.
Monroe Doctrine.

England's Stockton and Darlington RR first railway line.
Completion of Erie Canal.
Baltimore & Ohio RR completed.
First Inter-American Congress in Panama.

Republic of Texas established.
War with Mexico.
Discovery of gold in California.
First Women's Rights convention in N.Y.
Morse transmits 1st telegraph message.

Austria's Maximilian Emperor of Mexico.
The Civil War.
Union and Central Pacific is first trans-continental RR.
Emancipation Proclamation.
The Homestead Act.

The Paris Commune.
Franco-Prussian War.
Pasteur develops immunization process.
Financial Panic of 1873 in U.S.
Edison devises the incandescent bulb.

First Pan-American Conference in Washington, D.C.
The Dreyfus Affair.
Financial Panic of 1893 in U.S.
Sherman Anti-Trust Law.

JOHN
QUINCY
ADAMS II
1833-1894

Appointed to staff of Governor Andrew of Massachusetts; marries Fanny Crowninshield.

Nominee for Governorship of Massachusetts.
Elected to Massachusetts Legislature.
Candidate for Vice Presidency.

Moderator Quincy Town Meetings.

CHARLES
FRANCIS
ADAMS II
1835-1915

Commissioned in Union Army.

Chairman Massachusetts RR Commission.
Head of government directors of Union Pacific RR
President of Union Pacific.

Resigns from Union Pacific Presidency.
Publishes major work on Massachusetts history.

HENRY
ADAMS
1838-1918

Serves as father's secretary in Washington; later in London.

History Professor at Harvard;
Edits North American Review
Marries Marian Hooper.
Publishes novel "Democracy" anonymously.

Travels to Orient; begins "posthumous" life.
Publishes nine-volume history of the U.S.

BROOKS
ADAMS
1848-1927

Accompanies parents to London.

Graduates Harvard College; enters law school.
Secretary to father at Geneva Claims Arbitrations.

Publishes "Emancipation of Massachusetts."
Marries Evelyn Davis.

Special Press Representative:

Ben Kubasik Inc.

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WNET/13

356 West 58 St.

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(212) 262-8256

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE

BY GRANTS FROM

THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

THE ANDREW W. MELLON FOUNDATION

ATLANTIC RICHFIELD COMPANY

The term "humanities" includes, but is not limited to, the study of the following: language, both modern and classical;

#51

1. →



News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

from the
National Endowment for the Humanities
Washington, D.C. 20506

Contact: Darrel deChaby
(202) 382-5721

Wilton Corkern
(202) 382-7465

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES, FUNDED IN PART BY THE
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES, TO PREMIERE ON
PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE, TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

Washington, D.C. -- THE ADAMS CHRONICLES, a series of thirteen hour-long dramatizations of American history from 1750-1900, produced by WNET/13, New York, will premiere at 9:00 PM, EST, on Tuesday, January 20, 1976 on Public Broadcasting Service. The series was funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The historical narrative focuses on formative periods and events in America's past as seen through the lives of four generations of the Adams family which gave the United States its second and sixth presidents. Time Magazine said of the series in its TV review of January 19, 1976:

...The most significant thing about THE ADAMS CHRONICLES is that it succeeds in its own terms--in dramatizing ... the lives of the great. The writers have found dramatic forms spacious enough to include the acute psychological detail, and firm enough in outline to maintain reasonable suspense about precisely how the characters will respond to historical events.... Public broadcasting has brought off ... a Bicentennial project in which an ambitious conception is executed with matching taste and intelligence.

Newsweek said:

To the credit of its producers, the CHRONICLES is a three-dimensional political study of a complex family..... THE ADAMS CHRONICLES is this television season's only cause for critical celebration.

-continued on reverse-

arts; those aspects of the social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the

study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life.

linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism, theory, and practice of the

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES is made possible by a \$1 million outright grant and \$3 million in gifts and matching grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Of the \$3 million amount, \$1.5 million was received by NEH from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and matched by NEH with Federal Treasury funds appropriated for matching purposes. In addition to the combined \$4 million in outright and matching grants from NEH, Atlantic Richfield Company made a grant of \$1.2 million directly to WNET/13, New York, for the series' production.

Led by NEH, the three funders supported THE ADAMS CHRONICLES with the expectation that it will bring informed perspective to 150 years of the nation's history and result in an enhanced appreciation of that history by the American public.

Beginning this month, an estimated 400 colleges and universities will offer a credit course associated with THE ADAMS CHRONICLES, either on campus or through extension programs. A number of books and related materials have been published in conjunction with the series. They include two hardbound books and a series of three publications related to the college and university courses being offered. All are published commercially and available for sale. Additionally, a special grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities has provided a 16 page adult home viewer guide and a 24 page teacher's guide, which are available free of charge from local Public Broadcasting Stations.

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES is, in many ways, a perfect TV vehicle for the Bicentennial. In telling the story of the Adams family, it touches upon many of the great moments of American history and deals with careers in public life that included a delegate to the Continental Congress, two Presidents, a Vice President, a Secretary of State, ambassadors, and members of Congress.

AMERICAN FILM, 12/75

Everything about the production deserves superlatives -- the meticulous attention to historical accuracy, the pointed writing, the beautiful photography and the crisp, assertive direction. THE ADAMS CHRONICLES may well usher in a new era in American television production.

DALLAS MORNING NEWS, 1/22/76

...The most significant thing about THE ADAMS CHRONICLES is that it succeeds in its own terms -- in dramatizing...the lives of the great...Public broadcasting has brought off... a Bicentennial project in which an ambitious conception is executed with matching taste and intelligence.

TIME, 1/20/76

To the credit of its producers, the CHRONICLES, is a three-dimensional political study of a complex family...THE ADAMS CHRONICLES is this television season's only cause for critical celebration.

NEWSWEEK, 1/20/76

...its attempts to turn historical figures into believable human beings appears to have been resoundingly successful...Perhaps the most crucial accomplishment of THE ADAMS CHRONICLES is that it overcomes the worthiness of its own conception.

THE WASHINGTON POST, 1/20/76

The series is terrific, well worth anyone's time watching and endlessly instructive...The series itself may be the best serious, ambitious recreation of history ever to appear on the American TV screen.

THE WASHINGTON STAR, 1/20/76

...American TV at its best...The series gives every indication of being a Bicentennial jewel, a splendid achievement...

THE NEW YORK TIMES, 1/20/76

The Washington Post

STYLE

People / Entertainment / Leisure

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 1976

TV's 'Adams' Top-Rated

By Tom Shales

Officials at New York's Channel 13, which produced the program, say "The Adams Chronicles" may become the highest-rated prime-time series in the history of public television. In early New York ratings, the first two episodes topped the previous record-holders, "Upstairs, Downstairs" and "Monty Python"—both British imports.

An estimated 1.5 million people have been watching the show in New York alone, and reaction has been largely positive, station spokesmen say. And yet some viewers have expressed discomfort with one aspect of the show: the formal

language used by members of the Adams family and other characters of 18th-century America, where the opening chapters are set.

Did people ever really talk That Way?

"How can we know how they talked?" says Marc Friedlaender, editor of The Adams Papers in Boston and one of three historical consultants for the show. "We know a few things about how they talked, but there is really very little evidence to go on. We have many records of the written language of the time, but not the spoken language. If there were very many plays written then, that might tell

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1976

'ADAMS' PROGRAM PROVES POPULAR

**Channel 13 Show Gets 12 to
14 Percent of Audience**

The highly publicized public
television series "The Adams

New York Times, January 20, 1976

'The Adams Chronicles': American TV at Its Best

By JOHN J. O'CONNOR

More than five years in the making, a total budget of about \$7 million, stalled by a

ennial jewel, a splendid achievement in a major anniversary year that, so far, seems to be drenched in kitsch and mediocre tribute.

are solid, quite capable of withstanding the avalanche of reservations and quibbles that is no doubt inevitable for such a project.

time, the opportunity to pause and learn from mistakes. Early in 1974, she began commissioning a new batch of scripts, and actual production in a New York studio didn't

One Man's Family

Over the past six years, the public-TV airwaves have been ruled in large part by such dramatic imports from the British Broadcasting Corp. as "The Forsythe Saga" and "Upstairs, Downstairs." Next week, PTV will mark the Bicentennial with its own declaration of independence. The occasion is the debut of "The Adams Chronicles," a thirteen-part series that took six years and \$5.2 million to produce, employs 1,100 actors and is based on no fewer than 300,000 pages of historical documents about the nation's most intellectually verdant family tree.

The unprecedented investment has already generated a chorus of complaints from those who contend that noncommercial television's franchise should be public-affairs programming. That argument aside, "The Adams Chronicles" is this TV season's only cause for critical celebration. Produced by New York City's WNET/13, the series traces the lives of the John Adams family from 1750 to 1900, pausing to examine the points at which the human drama becomes part of America's great moments. "The business of their lives was the major business of America," producer Virginia Kassel told NEWSWEEK's Janet Huck. "Their domes-

tic troubles were caused by the British troops invading their hometowns and whether or not Congress would raise ambassadors' salaries. They are the touchstone of American history."

Fame: To the credit of its producers, the "Chronicles" is a three-dimensional political study of a complex family. Playing the founding father, George Grizzard delivers a subtly calibrated portrait of a vain, somewhat boorish sort who had to reconcile his unabashed "lust for fame" with an impassioned commitment to "moral values and sacred thoughts." And those often conflicting impulses were inherited by most of Adams's descendants, who included another President, a Secretary of State and congressman, several ambassadors and a celebrated historian.

The first six episodes



Carl Samrock

The founding family: Grizzard (center), Walker (right)

Viewpoints: First-Rate First Family

That genius of the vulgar, Harry Cohn, always refused to permit movies about the American Revolution to be made on his Columbia Pictures lot. He believed that men in knee breeches and powdered wigs, spouting the stilted locutions of the 18th century, looked and sounded too silly for audiences to take seriously.

He had a point, and it is probably the reason why, of all the great events in American history, the first of them has received the least attention from films and television. The mildest praise you can offer The Adams Chronicles (PBS, Tuesdays, 9 p.m., E.S.T.) is that it is the exception that sorely tries Cohn's law. More important, a sampling of the 13-episode series finally lays to rest the cliché that only the British are capable of producing complex family sagas.

But the most significant thing about The Adams Chronicles is that it succeeds in its own terms—in dramatizing that usually unyielding material, the lives of the great. The writers have found dramatic forms spacious enough to include the acute psychological detail, and firm enough in outline to maintain reasonable suspense about precisely

how the characters will respond to historical events. Solidly professional direction and an expert, huge—172 speaking parts—corps of actors have completed the project. They succeed in humanizing a family to which we have, somehow, attached the word "distinguished" and then let slip from our historical imaginations.

Shrewd Depiction. The first episode, which takes John Adams from failure as a rustic lawyer to the center of revolutionary agitation in colonial Boston, is a fair example of how the series works. For Adams' rise to large status in our political history is paralleled by a shrewd depiction of his personal progress from a bachelorhood feverish with suppressed sexuality to a courtship of Abigail (appealingly played by Kathryn Walker) that is near-comic in its ardor.

By the time that their children start to come along, Adams is only vaguely affectionate, so preoccupied is he by public life. As played by that wonderfully energetic actor, George Grizzard, Adams is a man possessed by both a bustling ego and overwhelming idealism. He is saved from pomposity by his ability to take an ironic attitude toward his own excesses. In short, there is a density and richness in this characterization.

It is easy to see Adams as the American-style politician, brother under that wig to all the peo-

producers would either abandon the use of tape for large enterprises of this sort or learn to light scenes so that they have the glow and richness of well-made film.

But these are small matters. What is important is that public broadcasting has brought off what commercial broadcasting has not even attempted—a Bicentennial project in which an ambitious conception is executed with matching taste and intelligence. *The Adams Chronicles* cost \$5.2 million to produce, and is thus the most ambitious dramatic project undertaken by U.S. public broadcasting. It achieved a certain notoriety last fall when huge cost overruns on the series forced its producing station—New York's WNET—to curtail some local programming in order to pay its bills. But far better a cost overrun than the more common television complaint—a talent underrun.

Richard Schickel

Tickled to Death

It must have seemed a good idea doing a parody soap opera. For the opening minutes of its first episode last week, *Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman*—which Producer Norman Lear is syndicating because, he claims, the networks were afraid of it—still seemed like a good idea. There was the bird-brained heroine in the dreary suburb pouring endless cups of coffee for her girl friends

The News American
BALTIMORE, MD.
D. 217,423 SUN. 296,818

JAN 19 1976

By Helen

"Adams Chronicles" Starting Tuesday Is Monumental TV

BY N.P. Clark
Television Reviewer

Judged by the opening hour, "The Adams Chronicles," to run 13 weeks on the PBS network starting at 9

"Chronicles" is a much more comprehensive historical study than the day-at-a-time capsules of Revolutionary times. Much more so, in fact, than anything comparable

you choose to take the story as romantic fiction you've got something just as good, or better. It qualifies handsomely.

As Virginia Kassel, crea-

pages of letters, diaries and journals bequeathed in trust to the Massachusetts Historical Society.

In the first episode George Grizzard plays John Adams,

The Washington Star

Portfolio

- Amusements
- Features
- Comics

SECTION D TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 1976

TV TONIGHT

Adams Film A Gigantic Job

By Patricia Simmons

Washington Star Staff Writer

It's premiere night for the most ambitious series ever produced for U.S. television, "The Adams Chronicles" (WETA-26, WAPB-22 and WNVTV-53 at 9). Consider:

• A 13 weeks series featuring 200 actors with speak

For 'Adams Chronicles,' Read the Book AND See the Film

On TV: Endlessly Instructive in the Evolution of America

By Frank Getlein
Washington Star Staff Writer

The most extensive television tribute to the Bicentennial and at the same time the most ambitious enterprise of public television ever begins tonight at 9 on WETA-26, WNVN-53, and WAPP-22: "The Adams

From beginning to end, in viewing the series, it is of bedrock importance to bear in mind that it is based on the family papers. This is American history as seen by the Adamses who were taking part in it but were finally defeated by it.

In Print: The Stuff of History . . . and Drama

By Elizabeth Cleland
Washington Star Staff Writer

The Adams Family of Massachusetts is the stuff of history. Taken as individuals, the lives of John and Abigail Adams; their son, John Quincy; his son, Charles Francis; and his sons, Henry and Brooks

things, absolutely out of his senses." Adams, in turn, held a low opinion of Franklin, among others, and confided all to his journal for the benefit of posterity.

The last half of the book shows us John Quincy Adams and the world he helped make. We also learn more about Charles Francis Adams, congressman, minister



WASHINGTON POST, January 20, 1976



Signing a Declaration of Elan For 'The Adams Chronicles'

By Tom Shales

All of television's landmarks and noble undertakings should be as painless as "The Adams Chronicles." On the basis of the first four episodes of this new 13-week public TV series, its attempts to turn historical figures into believable human beings appear to have been resoundingly successful. There is scarcely a "figure" in the place.

"John Adams, Lawyer," set from 1758 to 1770, begins the \$6.7-million series

struggling perhaps, to life.

It may not be oversimplifying to see the series' historical and dramatic ambitions as intrinsically antithetical. If the nine writers who worked on scripts have erred one way or the other, it is probably in being too historical rather than too dramatic. The best sequences in the premiere show are the intimate ones—John Adams courting Abigail Smith and their subsequent home life in Massachusetts. As it did 200 years ago,



Washington Post, January 20, 1976

con't.

'Chronicles': A Declaration of Elan

ADAMS, From C1

emerges. Almost everything has been done to avoid the aura of historical pageant; composer John Morris's main theme manages to sound warm as well as important.

Occasionally the emphasis goes awry



The New York Post

Tue., Jan. 20, 1976

*On
The
Air*

By BOB WILLIAMS

* * *

Tonight will be one of enrichment on the homescreen since it will also bring us at 9 o'clock the first chapter in WNET's \$6.5 million, 13-part series dramatizing "the Adams Chronicles," tracing the story of the famous Massachusetts family through four generations and 150 years of

PHILADELPHIA DAILY
NEWS
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
D. 263,300

JAN 20 1976

Exp. 1/21

Adams: Apple Of Eye



Jim O'Brien
On TV

At last, a Bicentennial television production with meaning and depth.

That is one view of the first episode of "The Adams Chronicles" to be seen tonight at 9 on Channel 12. The \$5.2 million 13-week series has been chosen by Temple University and 400 other colleges and universities as a three-credit television course but don't let that give you the impression that this is a dry, pedantic history lesson.

THE SAGA of the famed Adams family is brought to life with lucid writing, good performances and fidelity to history and it begins with John Adams, the country lawyer who became the second President of the U.S.

Later episodes will dramatize the lives of John Quincy Adams, the sixth-President and other family members who served in Congress, the foreign service, the Civil War and as financiers and historians.

The series spans the years from 1750 to 1900 in chronicling the history of a family that so closely parallels the



Grizzard

On the TV Scene

Broadcast Beat

A triumphant 'Adams'

By HARRY BOWMAN

TV-Radio Editor of The News

The Public Broadcasting Service unveiled "The Adams Chronicles" Tuesday on Channel 13 and it proved to be a triumph.

white series on location in Utah and star a group of Dallas youngsters. Appearing in these wrap-arounds are Adam Borison, Maureen Cruden, Gary Gerber, Alex Glasscock, Alton Johnson and Chris Julian.

On the TV Scene

'Adams Chronicles' A Bicentennial Hit

By Joyce Wagner
Television Editor

After a 4-month delay due to a New York writers' strike and a \$1.3-million budget deficit, "The Adams Chronicles" will make its long-awaited TV debut this week as the most ambitious and costly series ever undertaken by American public television.



Abigail Adams (Kathryn Walker) reads letter from Congress naming John Adams (George Crizzard), right, as minister to Great Britain, in an episode from The Adams Chronicles. In center is Thomas Jefferson (Albert Stratton).

'The Adams Chronicles'

By JACK ANDERSON
Herald TV-Radio Editor

Perhaps it is just a fleeting phe-

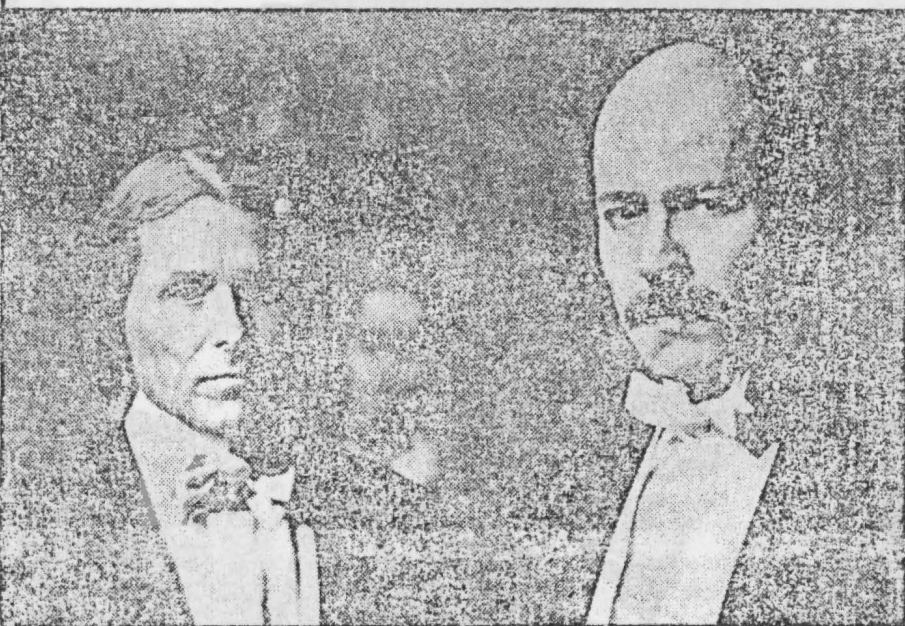
what's-his-name, John Smith? How about an hour of Washington chopping down the cherry tree. That

work, with perhaps the most lavish bicentennial production of them all — "The Adams Chronicles," a 13-

THE MIAMI HERALD
January 18, 1976

THE MIAMI HERALD
January 18, 1976

The Adams Chronicles



At left: George Grizzard as young John Adams arriving in Boston as "The Chronicles" begin. Above: Peter Brandon and Charles Siebert as Henry Adams and Charles Francis Adams 2d, fourth generation inheritors of the family tradition.

continued

'Adams Chronicles' Will Premiere Tuesday

From Page 1
congressmen and journalists.

The production required 1,100 actors, nine writers and six directors. It was videotaped in only 19 weeks in New York and on location in Providence, R.I., Long Island, N.Y., Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Rumsen, N.J., and Charleston, S.C.

The series takes its title from — and much of its scripting is based on — a recently published Little, Brown and Co. book by Jack Shepherd, a text-and-picture history of four generations of the Adams family.

But there is no lack of information about the Adamses. John

In Tuesday night's opener, we meet John Adams in 1758 when he is 23, a struggling lawyer-farmer in Braintree, Mass., and follow him while he goes to Boston seeking a patron to sponsor his admission to the bar. He meets, courts and marries Abigail Smith and they start a family in Braintree. They move finally back to Boston where Adams, urged on by his cousin, Samuel, finds himself more and more caught up in the growing revolutionary fervor of the city.

Kathryn Walker plays Abigail in this episode. The middle-aged and old Abigail will later be played by Leora Dana. John Houseman is good in the prophetic role of the old

drew W. Mellon Foundation and the Atlantic Richfield Co.

THE MIAMI HERALD
January 18, 1976

II

continued

By KAY GARDELLA

What's a few million dollars, more or less, when the result is "The Adams Chronicles"? This costly 13-episode series, which ran \$1.4 million over budget and kicked up a storm of controversy, represents

J. Iselin, the president of WNET since 1972, in jeopardy. But with the unveiling of the series, perhaps this will change.

Let's ask ourselves what would have happened,

director is Virginia Kassel, and Jac Venza is executive producer. Five directors, including James Cellan Jones, who directed "Jenny," and four producers also worked on the series.

DAILY NEWS, SUNDAY JANUARY 18, 1976

III

continued

The Adams Chronicles

(Continued from page 1)

Pamela Payton-Wright. This adds to the confusion.

wives, you'll need a scorecard to keep them straight. Unless you are on top of your history, you can expect in weeks to come to be scratching your head and saying, "Let's see. Whose son is he, now?"

George Grizzard makes things easy for you at the start. He stays with John Adams right through to old age. He spends time in France, accompanied by his 11-year old son, John Quincy, and frequently tangles with Benjamin Franklin on country policy. The Adams view of Franklin is a lot different from the one we got in the Benjamin Franklin series. Under George Washington, Adams also becomes the nation's first vice president, and later becomes the second President.

"Let my epitaph read, 'He kept peace with

DAILY NEWS, SUNDAY JANUARY 18, 1976

(Emery Battis) as they both struggle to maintain their countries' relationships, and Adams' efforts to make sure England does not recognize the Confederacy, provide some diplomatic insights. Peace is the common aim of both men.

Peter Brandon as Henry Adams, and Charles Francis Adams 2d, as portrayed by Charles Siebert, are the fourth generation of Adamses to be dramatized in the stunningly mounted series, which humanizes the family in such a way that in the future they'll all be remembered with a glow. But the real laurels must, in the end, go to George Grizzard, who in nine of the 13 episodes, goes from a very young man to a man of 91 in his final death scene when he mutters, "Jefferson lives." It was at that moment

McCALL'S
February 1976

SOME VERY SPECIAL TV SPECIALS

BY MARY ANN O'ROARK
AND ANN O'SHEA

The next weeks of television will be filled with interesting specials, several that highlight family life. Foremost among them is the original Adams family, which for four successive generations played a crucial and dramatic role in our country's history. Such a monumental family deserves to be dealt with in a monumental way—and a 13-week series called *The Adams Chronicles* turns out to be the grandest project ever undertaken by public television (for that matter, it's grand by *any* standards). As a result of months upon months of painstaking work, history now comes excitingly alive for one

Week Ending February 7, 1976

Going Through Channels

TV's 'Adams Chronicles': A Bicentennial Gift To All of Us

By Daniel Henninger

THE NATIONAL OBSERVER

The Hypochondriac

George Grizzard's John Adams is a complicated man. He is a man who worries that unclothed statues in France may offend his wife. He braves long separations from his family while pursuing the American Revolution's interests in the courts of Europe. Too self-possessed to overvalue public fame, Adams is equally certain that he deserves it. Though he was to live to be 91, the man fidgets constantly with his health, checking his eyes, teeth, and scalp for symptoms of illness. His wife, Abigail, says, "You have a hundred faults, John, just foibles."

The acting in the four episodes I have seen is almost uniformly excellent, particularly Kathryn Walker as Abigail Adams, who emerges as a more complicated, more fully developed than her husband. She has suppressed much of her fascinating personality in the interests of her husband and the young country, but she

TELEVISION

PLAYBOY February 1976

The two-hour premiere performance of Irwin Shaw's novel *Rich Man, Poor Man* (three excerpts of which were published in PLAYBOY in 1970) opens the ABC-TV series of "Novels for Television" in early February (check local program guides for precise date and time slot). After *Rich Man, Poor Man* has run its course in subsequent weekly episodes, ABC promises serializations of John Dos Passos' *U.S.A.*, James Michener's *Hawaii* and Alex

"Rich Man, Poor Man is soap opera, more or less. But it's intelligent, blue-ribbon soap opera."

country. Produced for noncommercial public television by New York's WNET/13 and financed by foundation grants of more than \$5,000,000, the 13-week series of hourlong dramas will premiere on Public Broadcasting Service outlets Tuesday, January 20 (check local program guides for broadcast information). The series, which exceeded its budget by a staggering \$1,500,000, inadvertently caused the demise of two WNET public-affairs



TELEVISION
PREVIEW WITH
PICTURES:
**CHRONICLING
"THE ADAMS
CHRONICLES"**

by Richard Natale

A cold night in St. Petersburg. Louisa Catherine Adams leans over the bassinet which holds her ailing infant daughter. She hums a soothing lullaby. John Quincy Adams worriedly paces the room. He stops to pat the head of his son Charles Francis,

The Screening Room

Previews of noteworthy series and specials by TV GUIDE programming editors. For movie choices, see "This Week's Movies," by Judith Crist, in this section.

President Ford is scheduled to give his State of the Union Address on Monday evening. Elsewhere on the viewing front, there's a mixed bag of variety, documentary and drama.

SUNDAY. Bill Moyers' *Journal* returns (10 PBS) with a provocative report on racial tensions in a predominantly white, working-class section of Queens, N.Y. The conflict is between a black family, who moved in a year ago, and the white neighbors who want them out. It sounds like an episode of *All in the Family*—but in real life, Bunkerism isn't funny.

MONDAY. President Gerald R. Ford's *State of the Union Address* is scheduled to be telecast live to most areas (9 all networks). Analyses will follow.

TUESDAY. *The Adams Chronicles* (9 PBS) is an ambitious and lavishly mounted new series tracing the lives of John Adams and his descendants through 150 years and 13 episodes. The series' high budget (some \$6 million) shows in the opener, which makes impressive use of convincing sets and authentic costumes. The story is mostly about the courtship of the young, awkward John Adams and the outspoken, self-assured Abigail Smith, beginning in 1762. Shirley MacLaine has a special (10 CBS) and Lucille Ball is her guest in a tribute to theater chorus lines—where both stars began their careers. The hour was unscreened at press time, but executive producer William O. Harbach promises little patter, and a lot of singing and dancing.

WEDNESDAY. Jonathan Winters offers his own Bicentennial special, "200

Years of American Humor" (8 NBC). Winters, a master of improvisational comedy, seems confined in many of the sketches, but he manages to break loose for some funny moments as a bluff P.T. Barnum, a befuddled Francis Scott Key and a hammy silent-screen star. *Dance in America* (10 PBS) launches its season with performances by New York's Joffrey Ballet. Of the selections screened, the best are "Trinity," a rock ballet celebrating youth; and "Remembrances," a sweeping romantic work with music by Wagner.

THURSDAY. On a special two-hour episode of *The Waltons* (8 CBS), a fire guts the family's home and the children are sent off to live with neighbors. The rebuilding of the house—and the eventual pulling together of the family—are told with sensitivity and compassion. Hollywood Television Theatre presents "The Ashes of Mrs. Reasoner" (9 PBS), a comedy by Enid Rudd about life and love after death. The play centers on the widow Reasoner (played by Cara Williams), who conjures up the spirit of her husband (Herb Edelman). Charles Durning and the late Barbara Colby are fine as a mismatched couple involved with the Reasoners. Mary Tyler Moore headlines the most unusual show this season: *Mary's Incredible Dream* (10 CBS), a retelling in song and dance of man's creation, fall and redemption. It may sound like heavy going, but the hour is imaginatively choreographed, tunefully scored, and well-performed by Mary, Ben Vereen, singer-fiddler Doug Kershaw, and the Manhattan Transfer.

In some areas network shows may not be seen on the days and times indicated. Times are Eastern.



Tues., Jan. 20, 1976

The Adams Chronicles

(Tues., 9-10 p.m.; Fri., 12 noon-1 p.m.; Sat., 8-9 p.m., KCET)

Public Broadcasting Service in general, WNET, New York, in particular, take a mighty plunge into attempt to wrest prestige crown away from BBC and Thames TV but don't get that wet, at least in the first episode.

with such a tribe.

Casting seems inspired, at least for the first chapter, with George Grizzard as the farmer-lawyer John Adams tilting with Boston Justice Gridley (John Houseman), courting the

IN FOCUS

PUBLIC TELEVISION HIGHLIGHTS

On Tuesday, January 20, the Public Broadcasting Service will begin presenting *The Adams Chronicles* 1750-1900, a series of 13 weekly one-hour dramatizations from the lives of one of the most famous of our country's first families. This promises to be a significant and perhaps the most meaningful television production made for the Bicentennial because of the great wealth of written records left by the Adams family in



Thomas Jefferson and John Houseman in the first episode of "The Adams Chronicles," a dramatization of PBS.

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Film & Broadcasting Review

January 15, 1976

AMERICAN FILM



Journal of the
Film and
Television Arts

December 1975

\$1.50

Public Television's
Big Splash

Behind
"The Adams Chronicles"



The Adams Family: Clockwise, from top left corner: George Grizzard as John Adams, Lisa Lucas as Nabby, J. C. Powell as Charles, Stephen Austin as John Quincy, Kathryn Walker as Abigail Adams, and Asher Pergament as Tommy.

PUBLIC TELEVISION'S BIG SPLASH

The Adams Family Saga Is an Expensive but Worthy Bicentennial Gift to the Nation

Bruce Cook

Although nobody around Channel 13 in New York

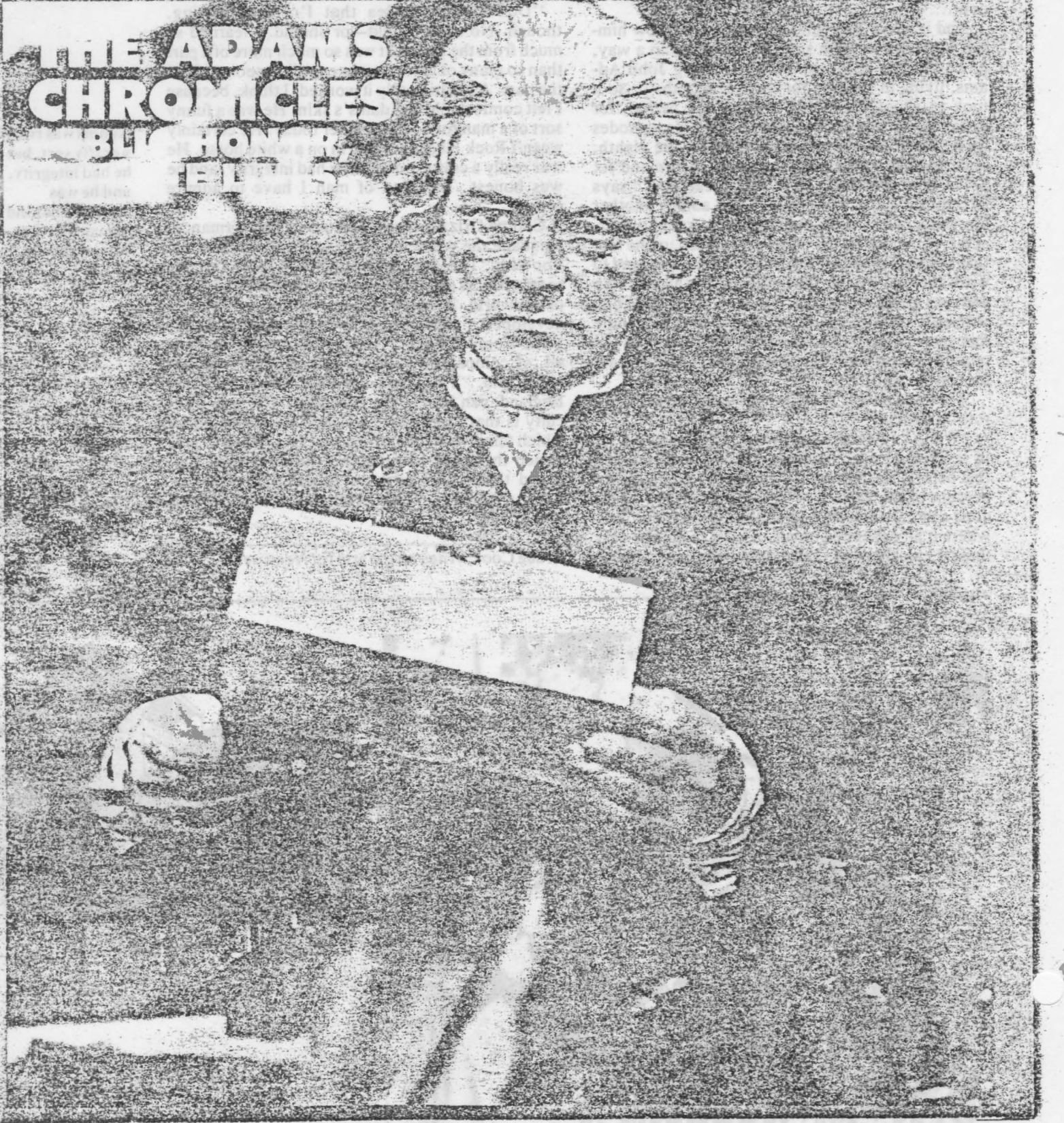
grown during the five years we worked on it. It started out as a way of covering certain important moments in American history. But what has changed in this country since 1969, when we first began thinking about it, is the whole question of leadership. Maybe the series offers some answers to that, too." Maybe it does. After all, in the course of the Watergate hearings no other figure in American history was quoted as often as John Adams.

CUE

THE NEW CUE
SEVEN LEISURE MAGAZINES IN ONE
EVENTS • THEATRE • ARTS • FILMS
DINING • FM-HI-FI • TELEVISION

WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE TO NEW YORK AREA • THROUGH JANUARY 23, 1976 • 50 CENTS

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES PUBLIC HONOR FELLOWS



Events

5
Winters aren't as cold as they once were, and the lakes in New York's parks often don't freeze solid enough to ice-skate on these days. But Chip Orton's found plenty of places to skate and he's had a look at the Ice Capades as well.

Theatre

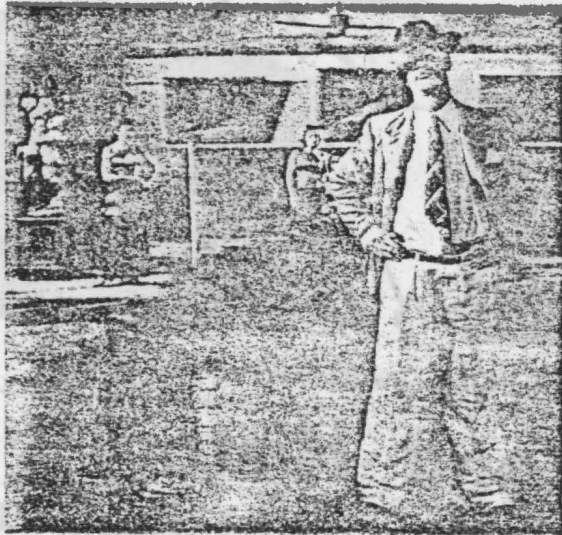
11
Marilyn Stasio talked with Irene Worth, the incandescent star of *Sweet Bird of Youth*, and discovered the source of her creative powers. Stasio also reviews two revivals—*Clarence* and *Angel Street*.

Nightlife

18
Arts 21
Virgil Fox not only plays the organ, he also stirs up a lot of controversy, as Joseph Porter discovered. Robert Jacobson assesses the situation at American Ballet Theatre, where another controversy rages, and Herbert Kupferberg reviews the Met's *Fidelio*.

Films

29
Lina Wertmuller's *Seven Beauties* opens January 21 (a scene from the film, at right), and William Wolf considers it a masterpiece. He talked with Wertmuller, a most outspoken director, and with Giancarlo Giannini, the movie's star and Italy's most promising actor since Marcello Mastroianni. Wolf thinks his performance will be hard to top, and places Wertmuller at the very highest rank of directors working today.



Special Films

Dining

30
31
Great Aunt Fanny's, a bistro popular with theatre folk, and Chez Z, a sophisticated new night spot, are reviewed by Jim Dimino, while Trudy Settel takes a look at some places on Long Island.

FM 31-F1

33
WQXR's *Artists in Concert* is a live broadcast of musicians performing for the open airwaves, and it's on every night at midnight. The man who runs the show was interviewed by Melissa Lande. Mike Jahn reviews an album of Irish music.

Television

63
The Adams Chronicles is WNET's most ambitious project to date (at right, George Grizzard and Kathryn Walker as John and Abigail Adams; cover photograph of Grizzard by Carl Samrock), and Mike Jahn reports on the arduous, painstaking effort that went into the production of the Bicentennial historical drama. He also takes a look at the television networks' "Second Season," and finds that it's no better than the first.



A tee shirt that dares to be different. Plunging front and back, it's the simplest way for me to look extra special. Short-sleeved cotton tee. White, navy, yellow or red, for small, medium and large sizes, \$11. Sport Separates Collections.



Tee shirting that plunges right in— and it's from

Saks Fifth Avenue

EVENTS
THEATRE
ARTS
FILMS
DINING
FAMILY
MUSIC

CUE TELEVISION



George Grizzard as the young John Adams (left) and, later, being sworn as President.

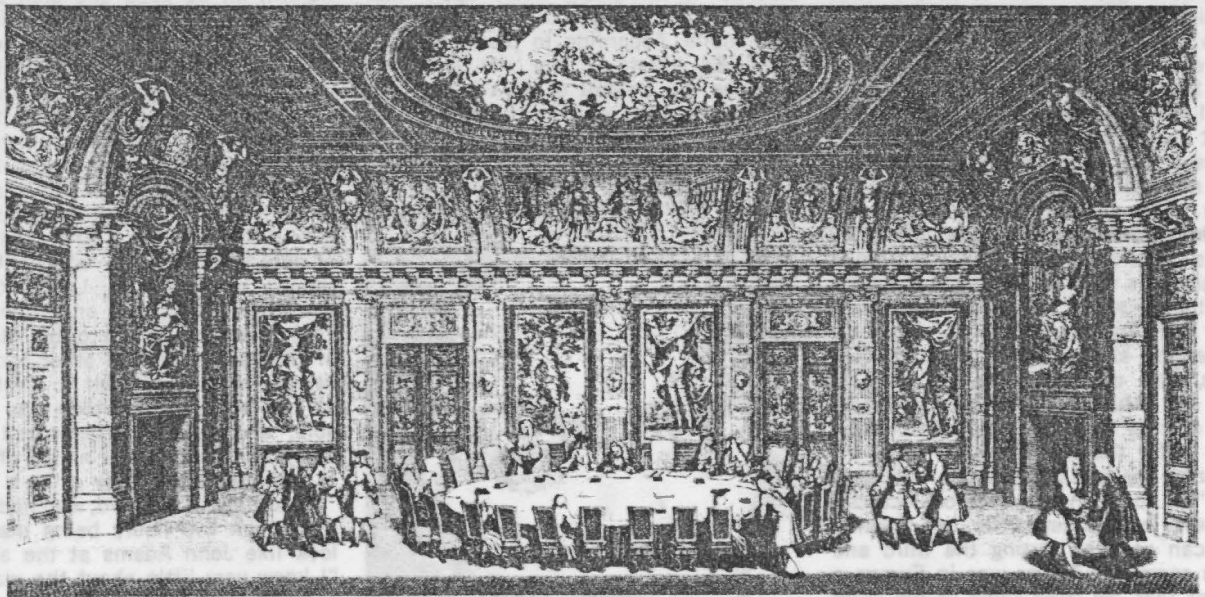
Men, Women, and History On PBS' Authentic Adams Series

By MIKE JAHN

"The Adams Chronicles," Public Broadcasting's Bicentennial present to America, is the most ambitious single project ever undertaken by non-commercial tele-

show can do to those who produce it. WNET/13 spent \$1.5 million more on the program than had been budgeted, and several other PBS shows were cancelled to meet the deficit. As a result, WNET/13

and second Continental Congresses, Commissioner to France during the Revolutionary War, First American Minister to Great Britain, first Vice President, second President, Minister to Prussia and Russia,



The truce chamber at the Hague, where John Adams signed the Dutch-American Treaty of 1782.

150 years of history in thirteen weeks

"The Adams Chronicles," a hugely expensive TV series, is America's latest try at an art form the British have perfected: the intellectual soap opera.

by Anthony Astrachan

John was a young man breathless to get his wife into bed on their wedding night—but so well brought up that he presented her with volumes of Pope and Shakespeare as a wedding gift before taking her into the bedroom. Years later, he joked with her about her repeated demands for equal rights for women. As a young Yankee lawyer, he defended the most unpopular Englishman in town—and agonized over whether he was doing it out of duty or ambition. As Minister to London, he was too poor to serve anything but a gift of turtle meat at his first diplomatic dinner. He went on to become President of the United States, leaving office after a single term because his principles were too strong for his politics. His son, another John, was endlessly reproached by *his* wife—for not dancing with her at diplomatic balls, for driving their own sons too hard, for marrying her out of a sense of duty when he really loved another. One of those three sons flirted with a pretty girl, another became engaged to her, the third married her. The ex-fiancé took to drink and

Anthony Astrachan is a free-lance writer and critic.

At left, the John Adams family as portrayed in WNET's The Adams Chronicles. Clockwise, from the top: Nabby (Lisa Lucas), Abigail (Kathryn Walker), Charles J. C. Powell, John (George Grizzard), Tommy (Asher Pergament), and John Quincy (Steven Grover).





The Philadelphia Inquirer

TV WEEK

Benjamin Franklin
and John Adams
In 'The Adams Chronicles'
See Page 2

PROGRAMS FROM JAN. 13 to JAN. 24

George Grizzard Settles for the Presidency

When he wasn't playing Cowboys and Indians ("Tom Mix was very big when I was a kid"), George Grizzard yearned to be a king.

He made it, too. He was Edward VIII in the recent Broadway production of



George Grizzard as John Adams and John Houseman as Justice Gridley in "The Adams Chronicles," Tuesday at 9. **12/13**



HARRY HARRIS

Screening TV

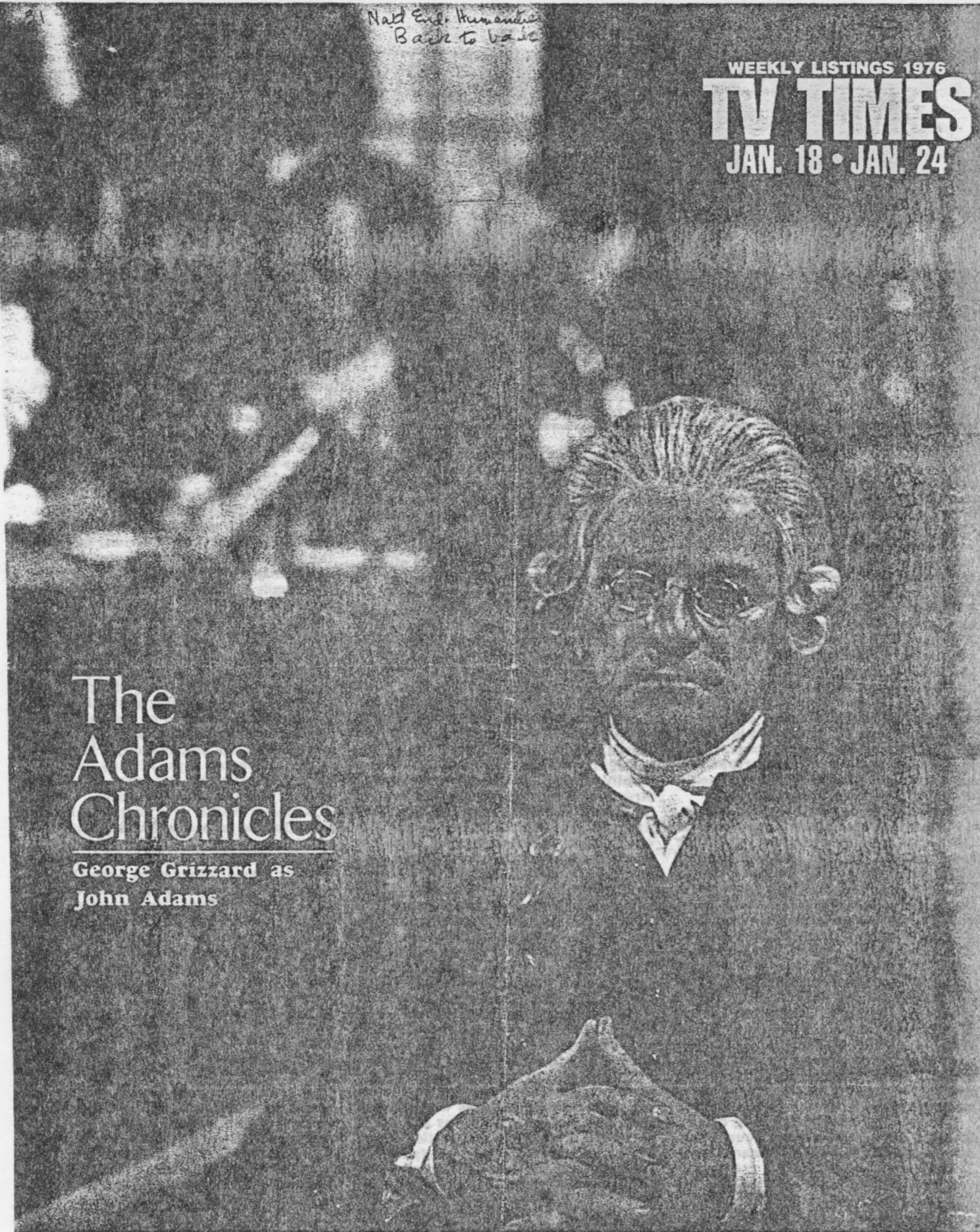
"I left the Guthrie troupe two weeks early another Ham from ble delp got a "I writ heal lis t thou Ame bein " the year at."

T own Pau peo see tify "I with rific opn care " — n age toug sho "I wig Sing mal nev mal bur "I woi just "I said Ad " cou vio glu bal of a F "W cid mu tion, but he didn't use his natural Southern drawl, either. "I found a compromise based A American not Brit

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21
Natl End. Humanities
Back to basic

WEEKLY LISTINGS 1976
TV TIMES
JAN. 18 • JAN. 24



The
Adams
Chronicles

George Grizzard as
John Adams



Cecil Smith

An American Saga

"... The story of the Adams family runs like a scarlet thread of moral courage and strength through the whole fabric of American history."—John F. Kennedy.

My one worry about "The Adams Chronicles" was that this \$6 million, 13-week drama is so important a project, the

same John Adams who would persuade Thomas Jefferson to draft the Declaration of Independence, become the first Vice-President of the new nation and its second President and whose son would be President, this play would be an absorbing and rewarding hour. Even Adams'

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TV Channels

The Washington Post

January 18-24, 1976



**'THE ADAMS CHRONICLES':
150 years of the historic Adams Family**

George Grizzard and Kathryn Walker portray John and Abigail Adams in "The Adams Chronicles," Tues., 9:30-10:30 p.m.

The Washington Post-TV Channels, Jan. 18, 1976

150 Years of a Dynasty

By Jean White

"The Adams Chronicles," spanning four generations of an extraordinary family and 150 turbulent years of the Nation's history, opens with the first of its 13 hour-long

Saga," "Upstairs, Downstairs," and "Jennie."

"The Adams Chronicles," ambitious in concept and prodigal in spending for non-commercial tele-

300,000 letters, journal entries, and documents—perhaps with an eye to posterity. They come closest to an American dynasty (John Adams; the Revolutionary patriot and the

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1976

B1

Challenging the British With an American Chronicle

By Tom Shales

Three months behind schedule, \$1.5 million over budget and 200 years after American underdogs sent the English packing, "The Adams Chronicles" is

compete with such hit imports from the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) as "Upstairs, Downstairs," "The Forsyte Saga" and "The Six Wives of Henry VIII."

Producers of the "Chronicles"—which



APR 18 1958

An American Chronicle, Challenge to the British

ADAMS, From BI

The program was almost upstaged in its race to beat the British by the CBS version of "Histoires Devenues" the

station personnel and led to what one staff member calls "vicious blurbs" in the press suggesting "Chronicles" would be not public TV's greatest triumph but instead its biggest bomb

always been Quin-zee. Some of the actors kept reverting to Quin-cee."

Such hazards helped make life maddening for Kassel, who says the historians "commented endlessly" but

"It's been an exhilarating experience for us," says Iselin. "On the whole, I think we think it's pretty good."

Lewis R. Angelos, corporate ad-

TV Graphic Cover

'The Adams Chronicles': An Expensive Lesson

By Barbara Holsopple

Press TV-Radio Editor

PUBLIC TV TAKES its first giant step into weekly series television production with "The Adams Chronicles," starting on Channel 13 Tuesday at 9 p.m.

"Adams Chronicles" has 300 speaking parts, 250 different settings and over 3,000 costumes.

It was done by nine playwrights and five directors, including James Gollan Jones, the English director of

The Washington Star

TV
magazine

PROGRAM LISTINGS

FEBRUARY 8 • FEBRUARY 14



'The Adams Chronicles' Adamses daughter is wed

The Washington Star

magazine

COVER STORY

It's been four weeks since telephones at Channel 26 rang out viewers' pleasure following the premiere of the most ambitious series ever produced for American



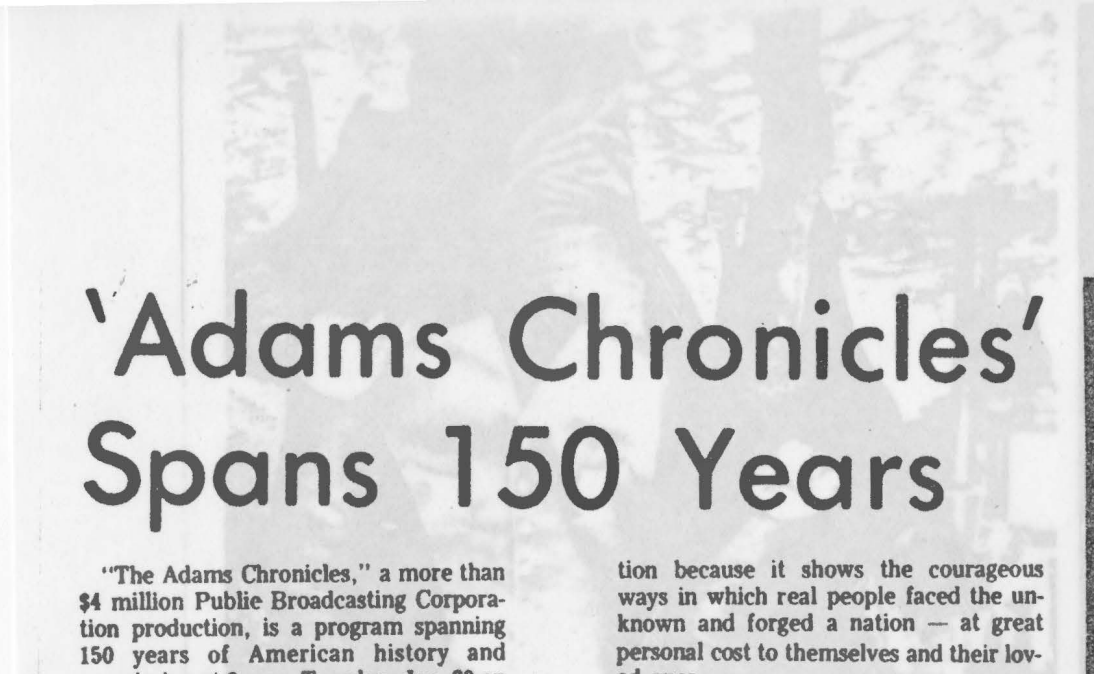
at great personal cost to themselves and their loved ones.

Patricia Simmons

FUN GUIDE

January 1976





'Adams Chronicles' Spans 150 Years

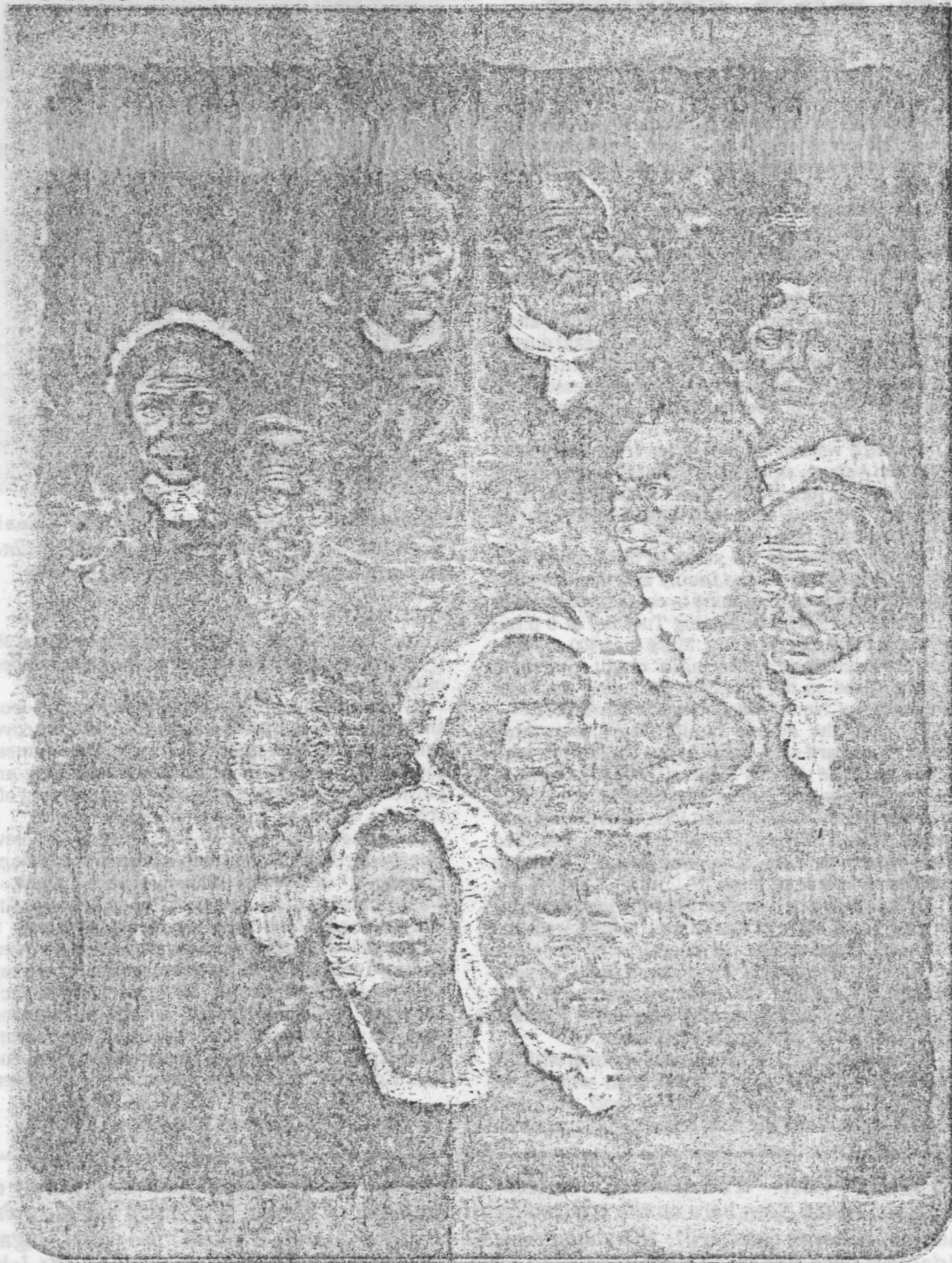
"The Adams Chronicles," a more than \$4 million Public Broadcasting Corporation production, is a program spanning 150 years of American history and

tion because it shows the courageous ways in which real people faced the unknown and forged a nation — at great personal cost to themselves and their lov-

The TV Book

DEMOCRAT and CHRONICLE

JAN.18 - JAN.24



²
THE ADAMS CHRONICLES

George Grizzard Living, dying in PBS series

By BETTY UTTERBACK
D&C Television Editor

cc - from cover

John Adams believed passionately in law and order. He considered vanity and ambition sinful. And he was convinced that night air was ruinous to health.

When George Grizzard began his research to portray the role of John Adams in the "Adams Chronicles" he didn't know a lot about the man. Like most of us, he knew more about men like Benjamin

The Washington Star

Portfolio

● Amusements

SECTION C

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1976

John and Abigail: 'Veddy, Veddy' Good

By Robert F. MacDonald
Special to the Washington Star

BOSTON — It's "Bran-tree" not "Brain-tree" and "to pronounce it the

Adams Descendants Comment on 'Chronicles'

and they all seemed to have the same names — there'll be no problems

Since his ancestors usually are viewed as paintings and statues in museums and

This, Adams admits, "upsets me no end. In fact, I don't see how the 'Rose-sevelts' can stand being called 'Roos-sevelt', which seems to happen all the time. That would be like calling the 'Roosevelts' 'Roos-sevelts'."

TV WEEK

THE BOSTON GLOBE, JAN. 18-24, 1976



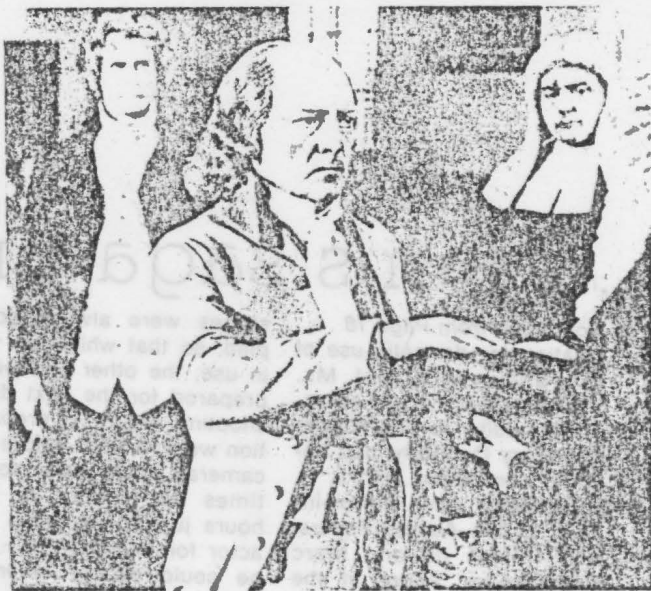
THE COVER

George Grizzard portrays the second President and progenitor of the distinguished Adams Family of Massachusetts in "The Adams Chronicles," a 13-week historical saga, which starts Tuesday night on PBS (9-10 on Ch. 2). (See story on Pages 17-18.)

George Grizzard as the first of the Adamses. Page 2.



George Grizzard, playing John Adams, ages from 23 to 91 in the course of the 13 weeks of the "Adams Chronicles," which starts Tuesday night on PBS (9-10 on Ch. 2). Here,



left, he is a young man of 23 arriving in Boston to seek patronage at the bar, and right, a mature man of 62 being sworn in as President.

Adams saga on Ch. 2

By Percy Shain
Globe Staff

Without doubt the most ambitious project in the history of public television — one budgeted at \$5.2 million

grounds, props, and other aspects of the production in its uncompromising insistence on historical fidelity.

Yet, strangely, it never came to Boston or Quincy

series in December of 1969, to be based on the Adams Papers, consisting of 300,000 pages of letters, diaries, and journals written by various members of the Adams

real people in political life.

"This family truly felt the weight of history on its private life. Its unwavering sense of duty, honor and justice often exacted tolls on

Adams saga on PBS

Continued from Page 18
nization for dramatic use of the documents. But Ms.

stages were always occupied, so that while one was in use, the other was being

ter; six John Quincys, the last two, David Birney and William Daniels, carrying him



The Time Herald
Newport news, Va.

Sat., Jan. 1, 1976

The Adams family comes to TV

Virginia Kassel, originator of "The Adams Chronicles," will finally see her long-term project come to fruition this week on public television (Channel 15 locally). The producer, who got the germ of the idea for the series when she was working in Williamsburg, talks about the program in an interview with Mary Anne Leonard on page L7.

George Grizzard stars as John Adams in the early shows with (clockwise) Lisa Lucas as Nabby, J. C. Powell as Charles, Stephen Austin as John Quincy, Kathryn Walker as Abigail and Asher Permagent as Tommy.



Video Viewpoint

History becomes drama in 'Adams Chronicles'

HOLLYWOOD — "The story of the Adams family runs like a scarlet thread of moral courage and strength through the whole fabric of American history." — JOHN F. KENNEDY

In fact, the opening chapter

My one worry about "The Adams Chronicles" was that this \$6 million, 13-week drama

historical significance, would



By
Cecil
Smith

be in itself a delightful and compelling play.

* * *

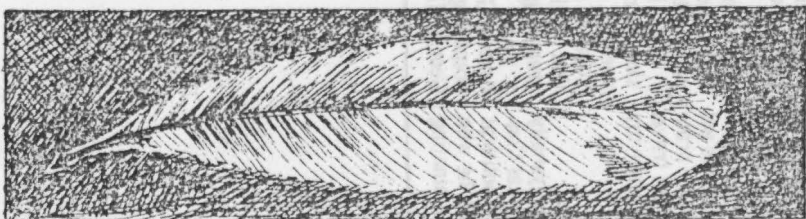
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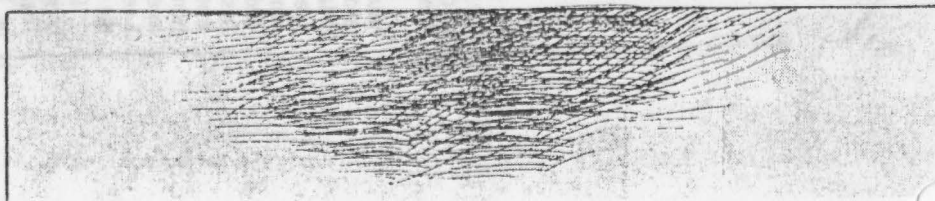
sia and Great Britain, produc-
er Virginia Kassel imported
Britain's famed director

"The Adams Chronicles

1750-1900," one of the most ambitious drama series ever produced by non-commercial television, premieres Wednesday, Jan. 21, 9-10 p.m., Ch. 3, 5G and 24. In 13 weekly parts, "Chronicles" studies the family who helped design, preserve and expand a nation. Woven among events that shaped the history of an emerging nation are events that formulated a family's personal legacy: John and Abigail's lifetime partnership, one of history's great love stories; John Quincy's fatal heart attack on the floor of the House, and the deaths of John Adams and Thomas Jefferson within hours of each other on the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence; broken friendships and reconciliations; untimely deaths of children and wives; the challenge to succeeding generations of their ancestors' record of achievement.



THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



Sentinel Star
Orlando, Florida

Wed., Jan/ 21, 1976

continued....

continued

'Adams' History Best Of Year?

Noel Holston



tially marries. They settle into his modest house in Braintree, Mass., and start to raise a family.

Sentinel Star
Orlando, Florida

Wed., Jan. 21, 1976

TV/ First Adamases Open NET's 'Chronicles'

By OWEN McNALLY

Some of television's nobler, yet ultimately ponderous flights into history fail to pack anything for the trip that might appeal to the general viewer's appetite.

Not so, however, with "The

ing. Abigail willingly embraces his amorous advances, but manages to stay several steps ahead of him verbally with her clever remarks.

Entitled "John Adams—Lawyer," episode one has a script filled with many bright spots with intentionally

With Wit and History

New Heavem Register

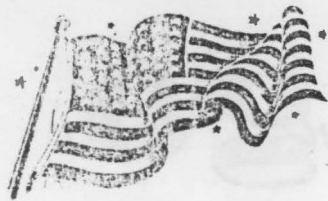
Jan. 18, 1976

(Connecticut)

Historic Series Premieres

greater understanding of the decision-making process — not just in the past but today. During the Watergate hearings, it was John Adams, she notes, who was one of the most widely quoted individuals about what people should expect from their leaders. Fictionalized drama, she says, often pales





Bicentennial Salute

Special to Record-Breeze

achievement.
Nine playwrights wrote

"The Adams Chronicles" - 150 Yrs. of History

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LINDENWOOD, N. J.
RECORD-BREEZE
W. 12, 1976

JAN 8 1976

Adams saga

1

By ALLEN MACAULAY

Staff Writer

The people at Channel 13 insist that "The Adams Chronicles" is not their Bicentennial gift to America, pointing out that the 13-part series has been six years in the planning and execution stages.

'Chronicles' is snail-paced

200th birthday. Don't expect high drama; that was never producer Virginia Kassel's intention. The real concept is embodied in a terse order I heard WNET president John Jay Ise-lin give a staffer the day of the advance screening: "Make sure you tell

their selectors to 13 tonight at 9. But the description "educational" is by no means complete. At its best, "The Adams Chronicles" is a downright absorbing account of how one family influenced the course of America's history.

KEENE, N. H.
SENTINEL
D. 11,642

JAN 3 1976

By John

Several new series open on NHHN during January

DURHAM—January brings a host of new series to channel 11 and the other stations of the New Hampshire Public Television Network.

"Erica," which begins Jan. 4 at 5 p.m., brings back needlework expert Erica Wilson in a new half-hour 13-part

✓
"Nova" returns with 26 new programs on Sundays at 8 p.m. beginning Jan. 4. Scheduled for the first month are a look at the science of earthquake prediction, the story of Joey Deacon, 55 years old and a spastic since birth, transcendental meditation, and facts about the solar system during the recent years of

THE RICHMOND NEWS LEADER

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

D. 120,054

JAN 17 1976

Bjll

'Adams Chronicles' Begin

The love story of John Adams and Abigail Smith and the pressures on them and the colonists living under British domination are dramatized in "John Adams: Lawyer," chapter one of "The Adams Chronicles."



The Cleveland Press
D. 375,653

JAN 16 1976

B. H. H.



WHAT'S IN A NAME? — The Adams family of Massachusetts and their descendants are the subjects of the new Public Broadcasting series, the Adams Chronicles, debuting Tuesday (9, Ch. 25). Starring as John and Abigail Adams are George Grizzard and Kathryn Walker, with Lisa Lucas (right), Stephen Austin, J. C. Powell and young Asher Pergament as their children.

Fort Worth Star-Telegram
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
D. 94,188 SUN. 227,297

JAN 18 1976

B. K. L.



jerry coffey

This week: the Adams family

The most notable TV event of the week is the premiere of "The Adams Chronicles," the most ambitious dramatic project ever produced in this country for

young Osmonds following up on their very popular recent special, Friday at 7 p.m. on ABC.

Also on tap are some network specials

BROOKLYN, N. Y.
FLATBUSH LIFE
(NEW YORK CITY MARKET AREA)
W. 16,000

JAN 12 1976

Flatbush



As You Like It

Viva Le Gallienne

by MICHAEL SCOTT

The Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) is the womb from which have sprung, of late, some of the brightest lights on Broadway. "Candide" and "Yentl"

"The Seven Year Itch," turns in an absolutely extraordinary performance. She was also recently seen in the Masterpiece Theater series of "Notorious Woman" on

The ~~Times~~ Times
MAMARONECK, N. Y.

(NEW YORK CITY MARKET AREA)
D. 9,835

JAN 17 1976 *B.K.*

The Daily Argus
MOUNT VERNON, N. Y.

(NEW YORK CITY MARKET AREA)
D. 19,256

JAN 17 1976 *B.K.*

BY KATHIE BEALS

There never has been a family more involved with the history of this country than the Adams family. They were in on its begin-

Historical dramatic series

'The Adams Chronicles'

had "dreamed away the whole afternoon."

Out of 300,000 pages of letters, diaries and journals that began with John Adams and ended with historian Henry Adams and industrialist Charles Francis Adams II, a dramatic television series has been fashioned.

This is "The Adams Chronicles" and its premiere is Tuesday at 9 p.m. on Channel 13.

IT BEGINS in 1758 with



other from this time forward, forevermore!"

It was typical of John Adams to jump the gun on the Fourth of July — the day he saw as historic, the day of the vote was July 2, 1776 but we, of course, celebrate the actual signing of the Declaration of Independence.

ONE OF THE endearing things about "The Adams Chronicles," both as a television series and in real life, is that its heroes and heroines tried so hard, sacri-

The Citizen Register
OSWING, N. Y.
(NEW YORK CITY MARKET AREA)
D. 9,179

JAN 17 1976 *B.K.*

The Herald Statesman
YONKERS, N. Y.

(NEW YORK CITY MARKET AREA)
D. 49,614

JAN 17 1976 *B.K.*

about the course of the nation and what the people should expect from their leaders — was John Adams.

FILMED IN color in and around authentic 18th and

DELPHOS, OHIO
HERALD
D. 4,000

JAN 16 1976

By Hanauer

Broadcasting TV's birthday gift to America

By JOAN HANAUER
UPI TV Writer
NEW YORK (UPI) —

The most ambitious dramatic project ever produced by American public television goes on the air Jan. 20 when the

to offend anyone about King George III, who was crazy as a jaybird."

Cellan Jones finds the prevailing American attitude toward British and American history disturbing.

Good T.V. Fare

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES

1750 - 1900

Are the wonderful new shows which were promised to you last summer for the 1975-76 season beginning to lose their luster?

Hopefully there is one real bright spot, beginning in January, 1976; an endeavor that is expected to match British productions of "Upstairs, Downstairs" and "The Forsythe Saga." It is entitled "The Adams Chronicles, 1750-1900" and is a 13-part, \$5.2 million production.

The series was conceived five years ago by Virginia Kassell of WNET. It will dramatize

--Ballroom in John Quincy Adams home in Washington.

--New Haven jail.

--Interior of Green Room in White House.

--Vice Admiral Howe's Headquarters on Staten Island.

--New Jersey Inn interior circa 1776.

--John Adams' children's bedroom in Amsterdam. Many of the sets are on actual locations elsewhere.

The production is also complicated by the array of hundreds of garments in the costume room. In the first of the thirteen hourly sequences John Adams, played by George Grizzard, has

BRAINTREE, MASS.
OBSERVER AND FORUM
SUN. 5,500

DEC 28 1975

By Keller

AAUW JOURNAL
WASHINGTON, D. C.
7 TI. A YEAR 85,000

JAN 1976 *Bygones*

***Adams Chronicles series
to premiere on PBS-TV***

Beginning Jan. 20, 1976, all PBS-TV stations will carry *The Adams Chronicles 1750-1900*, a series of 13 weekly one-hour programs dramatizing the lives of one of America's most historic and influential families.

The National Endowment for the Humanities, one of the sponsors of the programs, believes the series will offer viewers an increased appreciation and perspective of this nation's history. The offices held by members of the Adams family parallel the history of America.

7000
HERBERT HORNBERG
MONUMENTAL ARTS

MONTICELLO, IND.
HERALD JOURNAL
D. 5,000

JAN 17 1976 *By Keller*

Goes on the air January 20th

Public Television's Birthday Gift to America

W8633A

By JOAN HANAUER

UPI TV Writer

NEW YORK (UPI) — The most ambitious dramatic project ever produced by Ameri-

time and money — it cost \$5.2 million and six years to put together, with the help of 1,100 actors, nine playwrights, six directors and more than

to Cambridge University. "I can take a rather jaundiced, long outside view, particularly of the European and English parts of the Adams Chroni-

"A certain amount of anglo-philosophy may be inevitable — mother-of-Parliaments sort of thing — but the anglophilosophy in America is terrible and it's

historical things," he said. "History too often is approached with an appallingly reverent attitude, which I think

Schenectady Gazette
SCHENECTADY, N. Y.
D. 55,934

JAN 20 1976

B. J. H.

Ch. 17 to Start 'The Adams Chronicles'

"The Adams Chronicles," a series of 13 one-hour dramas of American history from 1750 to 1900, will premiere at 9 tonight.

'The Adams Chronicles' — expansive and expensive

By WALTER SAUNDERS
News TV Dial Editor

It must seem to the producers of *The Adams Chronicles* that they began work on the 13-part series when John Adams was President.

The series, which is public television's major gift to the Bicentennial, was started more than five years



leadership in this country.

Obviously, since work first began in 1969, the question of leadership at governmental level has become an important one.

As a base for the 13 hours, writers hired for the project had access to numerous diaries, letters and miscellaneous facts from numerous sources, including the Massa-

NEW EGYPT, N. J.
PRESS
W. 2.000

JAN 15 1976

Byfella

THE ADAMS CHRONICLE SPANS 150 YEARS OF HISTORY

"The Adams Chronicles" is history set to television, a series of thirteen hour-long dramas spanning the 150 years from 1750-1900 and detailing how four generations of one family -- beginning with John and Abigail Adams -- helped determine America's directions and legacy for the future.

The series will premiere at 9 p.m., Thursday, January 22, on New Jersey Public Television Channels 23, 50, 52, and 58.

The Mobile
Press Register
MOBILE, ALA.
SUN. 91,453

JAN 17 1976

By Walker



THE ADAMS FAMILY OF MASSACHUSETTS — The Adams family and their descendants are the subject of "The Adams Chronicles," to be broadcast nationally in 13 hour-long weekly installments beginning Tuesday, Jan. 20 (8-9 p.m.) on Channel 42. Clockwise from left; George Gizzard as John Adams, Lisa Lucas as Nabby; J. C. Powell as Charles; Stephen Austin as John Quincy, Kathryn Walker as Abigail Adams and Asher Pergament as Tommy.

History of Adams family chronicled

"When the "Adams Chronicles" begins its run

well prove to be only the

resources, proceed to do their very best"

Adams Chronicles



NEW YORK, N. Y.
MANHATTAN EAST
W. 17,000

JAN 6 1976

Grizzard

JOHN AND ABIGAIL ADAMS, portrayed by George Grizzard and Kathryn Walker, are the first of four generations of the Adams family of Massachusetts dramatized in WNET/13-New York's THE ADAMS CHRONICLES, a series of thirteen one-hour programs to be

SANTA ANA, CALIF.

REGISTER

D. 40,500 S. 129,500

JAN 12 1976 *By the way*

'The Adams Chronicles' Preview Impressively

By ANN TERRILL

Judging by a preview of the forthcoming Bicentennial television series, "The Adams

Chronicles," the 13 week set of programs

taken from letters and documents of the time. Words written by John Adams or his wife Abigail, especially her words on the rights of women, are woven into the script. The

The Knickerbocker News

ALBANY, N. Y.

D. 69,251

JAN 21 1976

By K. Walker

'Adams Chronicles' opens on educational

By C. ROBIE BOOTH

Arts Editor

"The Adams Chronicles," a

13-week American epic whose champions see it as The Colonies' answer to "The Forster Saga," debuted last night on Public Broadcasting Service (Channel 17 locally).

It is, if one can judge from the opening stanza, a worthy

production. It is adult without being lascivious, educational without pedantry.

John Adams is sensitively played by George Grizzard. It is one of the best roles of his career. He is human enough, ordinary enough in appearance to give life to the lawyer who became one of our founding fathers.

John Houseman, well-

known here for his direction at Saratoga Summer Theater for The Acting Company, was dominant and brilliant in a too-short cameo as Jeremiah Gridley, the sneering Boston lawyer.

Kathryn Walker, a refugee from a less successful attempt at the chropicle format, "Beacon Hill," is likable and believable as Abigail Smith Adams.

Kurt Dawson is effective as

down-to-earth note on PBS

TV: A review

probably highly accurate to the times. We see Adams and his bride as flirtatious and passionate, yet proper, people. Their manner of speech

speaking parts and 800 extras and cost about \$7 million.

One hopes it maintains its present promise, and proves enough of a success that oth-

Adams Story: Another Triumph

Jacksonville Journal

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

D. 61,685

JAN 17 1976

B. Pate

By **BOB PATE**

Journal Amusements Editor

The Adams Chronicles, a series of 11 one-hour programs about one of America's most famous families, debuts on Channel 7 next Thursday night at 9.



Guinness and Genevieve Bujold play the title roles in the new Hallmark Hall of Fame adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's "Caesar and Cleopatra" to be aired on NBC Sunday, Feb. 1, 5-6:30 p.m.

The Trentonian
TRENTON, N. J.
D. 48,841

JAN 17 1976

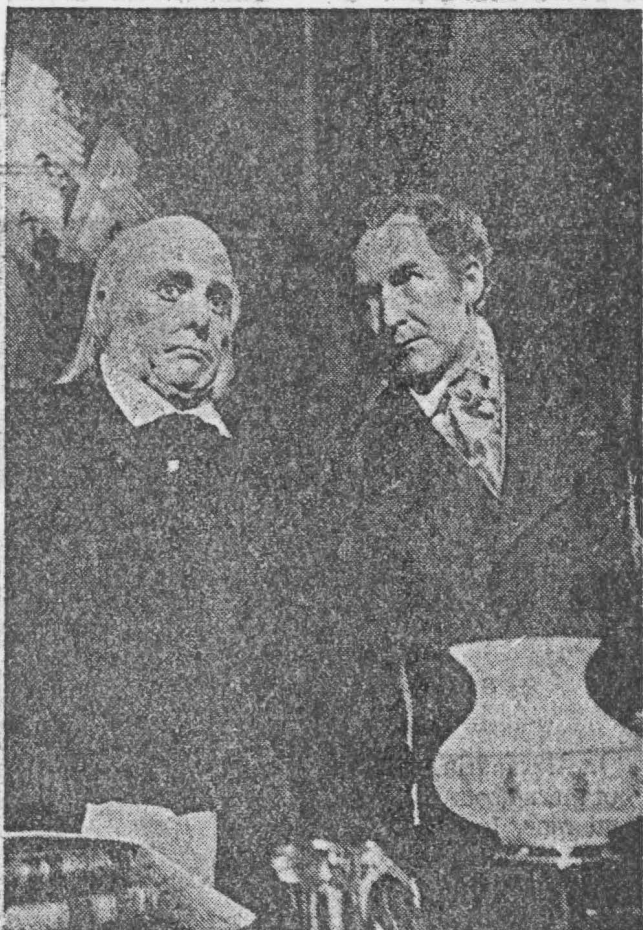
Signature



THE ADAMS CHRONICLES

Beginning the week of January 19, the Public Broadcasting Service will present a series of thirteen weekly one-hour dramatizations which trace 140 years (1750-1890) of American history through the lives of four generations of the family of John Adams. Mercer County Community College will offer both a three-credit course and a non-

Also available to persons selecting any mode of involvement is a 480-page extensively illustrated volume augmenting the TV series with more detail on the Adams family: *The Adams Chronicles: Four Generations of Greatness*. J. Shepherd. Although not required by MCCC, this impressive book is available for an additional \$9.



In The Adams Chronicles, John Quincy Adams (William Daniels), left, speaks out against slavery.

The Adams Family

As part of its Bicentennial Civil War officers, historians,

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WASHINGTON POST
January 15, 1976

Watch TV. Earn Credit For Degree

The Extended Learning Institute at Northern Virginia Community College is offering three credit courses beginning this week and next for those who choose to do their

HELENA, ARK.
WORLD
D. 7,000

JAN 2 1976

By Keller
On

TV course offered

As part of its Bicentennial celebration, Phillips County Community College will be offering a broadcast course for credit called THE ADAMS CHRONICLES, detailing the lives and contributions of four

Accompanying the course will be three reading supplements: an anthology of historic documents and papers collected and edited by history professor David J. Rothman of Columbia University; a comprehensive

CORNING, N. Y.
LEADER
D. 17,000

JAN 3 - 1976

By Helen

'The Adams Chronicles' 13-Part Series Also Offered As CCC Credit Program

Watching the Public Broadcasting System's "The Adams Chronicles" may garner credit for students at Corning Community College.

The series was made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Atlantic Richfield Co.

Representatives, a member of the Massachusetts legislature, Civil War officers, historians, financiers and numerous others.

history at the Coast Community College District and "The Adams Chronicles" by Jack Shepherd.

To say that the historical

3 College Courses Slated By HCC on Public TV

Housatonic Community college in cooperation with public television channels 24, 49, 53, 61 and 65 will offer three courses for college credit beginning Jan. 19. They are "The Adams Chronicles" (also on Channel 13), "As Man Behaves" and "Searching society."

To register use the Housatonic Community college's Extension Division application-registration form, a college official advised. Tuition is \$40 per course and

THE BRIDGEPORT POST
BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

D. 82,722 SUN. 85,633

JAN 4 1976

Boyle

The Adams Chronicles
The course has been designed to complement a 13-part tele-

video and print packet course.

Actors and actresses in the series include John Charles Francis, Adam Birney as John Quincy Adams, ages 36-48; Leora Dana as Abigail Adams, ages 44-48; George Grizzard as Thomas Jefferson.

As Man Behaves

"As Man Behaves" will provide the student with an introduction to psychology. The course will acquaint the student with basic psychological concepts, principles, and methodological approaches as well as with the scientific study of behavior.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA.
EXPONENT
D. 12,000

DEC 23 1975

BJH

Television Course to be Offered By GSC Over PBS in January

GLENVILLE—Glennville State College will be offering a broadcast course for credit called "The Adams Chronicles", detailing the lives and contribu-

Glennville will list the course as History 399, "The Adams Chronicles". Students may enroll for three or four hours academic credit. Students may

LONGVIEW, WASH.
NEWS
D. 23,000

DEC 3 1 1975



Adams Family on TV

An insatiable diarist, Henry Adams (Peter Brandon) records the terror during the Civil War in an episode of "The Adams Chronicles," both a TV series over Channel 10 and a college credit course offered by Lower Columbia College beginning Jan. 20. The series has been taken from the 300,000 pages of documents left by Adams between 1750 and 1900.

LCC offering class with television program

"The Adams Chronicles" will be both a television treat and a class presented through Lower Columbia College

finally, the two talented fourth generation boys, Brooks and Henry (who was perhaps the greatest American historian of the 19th Cen-

PONCA CITY, OKLA.
NEWS
P. 13,000

DEC 26 1975

Ball

Northern Continues Enrolment in Special History TV Course

TONKAWA — Enrolment is continuing in a television course for college credit in American History called "The Adams Chronicles," presented by Northern Oklahoma College and detailing lives of the remarkable Adams fam-

MUNCIE, IND.
STAR
D. 31.000 S. 35 000

DEC 28 1975

By Dorothea Bump

'Adams Chronicles' Are TV-BSU Effort

By DOROTHEA BUMP

For The Muncie Star

To say that the historically prominent Adams family merely loved to write would be a grand understatement. Most of

THE STORY BEGINS in a farmer's cottage in Braintree during the year of Braddock's defeat near Fort Duquesne, moves through the excitement

Nashville Banner

NASHVILLE, TENN.

D. 103,441

DEC 27 1975

R/K



Book Beat

By James Ewing

We'll Be Reading And Seeing A Lot Of The Adamses In '76

JACK SHEPHERD'S NEW *The Adams Chronicles — Four Generations of Greatness* (Little, Brown and Company, \$17.50) provides the basis for a major public television series beginning next month.

With funding by the Atlantic Richfield Company, the Andrew Mellon Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities, Public Broadcasting Service will televise a 13-week series based on the book.

CORTLAND, N. Y.
STANDARD
(SYRACUSE MARKET AREA)
D. 11.500

DEC 23 1975

Bomblica

TC3 Will Offer Broadcast Course on Adams Chronicles

As part of its Bicentennial celebration, Tompkins Cortland Community College will offer a broadcast course for credit called "The Adams Chronicles," detailing the lives and con-

University; a comprehensive study guide produced by Regina Janes, instructor of history, for the Coast Community College District, Costa Mesa, Calif.; and "The Adams Chronicles" by

TONKAWA, OKLA.

NEWS

TW. 1,654

DEC 11 1975

By Hollis

TV Course At NOC Details Adams Family

As part of its Bicentennial celebration, Northern Oklahoma College will be offering a broadcast course for credit called "The Adams Chronicles", detailing the lives and contributions of four generations of the Adams family from 1750-1900.

The course coordinated with

KELLOGG, IDAHO
NEWS
2, 4, 60

DEC 18 1975

50
Byfield

NIC Offering TV Credit Course

Beginning Jan. 20, North Idaho College will be offering a television course for credit called "The Adams Chronicles."

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ITHACA, N. Y.
JOURNAL
D. 17.500

DEC 29 1975

Byline

TC3 Offers TV Course

As part of its Bicentennial celebration, Tompkins-Cortland Community College will be offering a broadcast course for credit called The Adams Chronicles, detailing the lives and contributions of four generations of the Adams family from 170 thru 900. The course will be coordinated with the 13-part series of the same title, produced by WNET, New York, and fed nationally by the Public Broadcasting Service,

beginning Jan. 13 at 9 p.m. over SWKG-TV-46 in Binghamton (channel 30, Elmira). The series was made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and the Atlantic Ritchfield Company, and was done in cooperation with The Adams Papers, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the Harvard University Press. For more information, contact TC3. 1

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES

Chapter One (1758-1770)



The coming of age of John Adams. His courtship of Abigail Smith and his commitment to the liberty movement.

Tonight at 9 on WETA, Channel 26, WAPB, Channel 22 and WTVT, Channel 53. PBS

Produced by WNET/13, New York, for PBS. Made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Atlantic Richfield Company.



Washington Post, January 20, 1976

A new television series on PBS

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



Photo: Carl Samrock

"The story of the Adams family runs like a scarlet thread of moral courage and strength of character through the whole fabric of American history." John F. Kennedy

Beginning on January 20, 1976, the Public Broadcasting Service will present a series of 13 hour-long television episodes dramatizing 150 years in the lives of America's history-making Adams family.

The series will bring to life the ambitions and desires and tragedies and triumphs of four generations of Adams men and women. Through these events we will discover how this unique family helped shape the destiny of our nation.

Tune in January 20. Make sure you see this engrossing TV drama from the very beginning.

The outstanding cast includes (above, clockwise from upper left) Steven Grover (John Quincy Adams), Lisa Lucas (Nabby Adams), Kathryn Walker (Abigail Adams), J. C. Powell (Charles Adams), George Grizzard (John Adams), and Asher Pergament (Tommy Adams). An original production by WNET/13, New York.

The Adams Chronicles has been made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Atlantic Richfield Company.



Atlantic Richfield Company

A new television series on PBS

THE ADAMS CHRONICLES



Photo: Carl Samrock

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John F. Kennedy

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ARCO
AtlanticRichfieldCompany