Queen Elizabeth visits Virginia to help celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the Jamestown settlement. American spectators welcome her arrival.

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"Queen Elizabeth Visits Virginia to Honor 400th Anniversary of Jamestown." Bob Faw, correspondent.
Queen Elizabeth Visits Virginia to Honor 400th Anniversary of Jamestown

BRIAN WILLIAMS (anchor): Thousand of people turned out in Richmond, Virginia today to see a rare visitor in this country, the Queen of England. Queen Elizabeth and her husband Prince Philip are in the U.S. for the first time in years, helping to mark history and to offer some words of healing along the way. In Colonial Williamsburg tonight, NBC’s Bob Faw. Bob good evening.

BOB FAW (reporting): Hi Brian. After a very long day, the queen is now enjoying some private time here in Williamsburg. For the eighty-one year old monarch it’s the fifth visit to this country and here they’re doing everything they can think of to make it a storybook affair.

Arriving in the colonies, hat boxes in tow, Her Majesty got a down-home Virginia welcome. In Richmond, she was serenaded by dozens of performers, was escorted by locals drawn from a lottery of 20,000, capping it with a speech to Virginia State legislators, where the queen offered sympathy after the Virginia Tech Massacre.

Queen ELIZABETH II (United Kingdom of Great Britain): My heart goes out to the students, friends, and families of all those killed.

FAW: All day long a frenzied commonwealth gussied itself up for the queen. Today at historic Jamestown, bells were rung, breastplates were polished, matchlock muskets fired.
Re-enactor: Fire!

ED HERLIHY (Universal Newsreel): Queen Elizabeth begins her first state visit to America.

FAW: Fifty years ago, as a young monarch, she first visited Jamestown, England’s first permanent colony, 400 years ago, land her ancestors once called their’s.

HOMER LANIER (Jamestown settlement): Here we are where it started for the English here in America at Jamestown. And a short distance, twenty-three miles from here, is where it ended for the English in America at Yorktown, Virginia. So maybe there’ll be some mixed feelings on her part.

FAW: And while some here were not exactly overwhelmed by the royal visit.
Spectator #1: Um, no big deal.
FAW: Could I describe you as a twitter?
Spectator #2: Not so much a twitter, no. Not me.
FAW: Many others said they will do whatever it takes just to get a glimpse.
Spectator #3: God willing, I’m going to get to meet her. That’s my aim. Now if I get to see her, that would be enough.
FAW: After her speech in Richmond, the queen was brought to Virginia’s original capitol, Williamsburg, brought here in a horse-drawn carriage. Tomorrow here, and in Jamestown, thousands are expected to greet her, some, children of parents who first welcomed her here fifty years ago.