DAVID BEERS QUINN

David Beers Quinn is Andrew Geddes and John Rankin Professor of Modern History, Emeritus, of the University of Liverpool, and quite probably the foremost scholar in the world in the field of the discovery and exploration of North America. Born in Dublin, Professor Quinn was educated at the Queens University and at Kings College, University of London. He held faculty positions at University College, Southampton, Queens University, and University College, Swansea, before he assumed the chair at Liverpool. He has been Visiting Professor at the College of William and Mary, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and the University of Michigan. He has been a Fellow of the Folger, the Henry E. Huntington, and the John Carter Brown Libraries.

Professor Quinn is not the desk-bound scholar. He has participated or consulted in the excavation of many sites, such as those at St. Mary's City in Maryland and on Roanoke Island. Since 1948 he has been often in North Carolina as a participant in various programs; he has appeared at intermission in presentations of The Lost Colony. However, Professor Quinn's renown rests securely in the publication of numerous books and essays published in several nations. Among his major works are two volumes on The Voyages and Colonising Expeditions of Sir Humphrey Gilbert (1940), two more on The Roanoke Voyages (1955), two of The American Drawings of John White (1964), done with Paul Hulton and published jointly by the University of North Carolina Press and the British Museum, a copy of which was presented to the White House Library during the Johnson administration, England and the Discovery of North America, 1481-1620 (1973), and North America from the Earliest Discovery to the First Settlements: the Norse Voyages to 1612 (1977).

This University is pleased to recognize Professor Quinn for his superb scholarship demonstrated over a period of four decades in a stream of masterly articles and books that have added immeasurably to the knowledge of early exploration and colonization of North Carolina and the North American continent.