



SCOTTISH ROOTS . . . Dumfries Provost Jack Groom displays documents sent from the town's US namesake, which is preparing to establish an annual event celebrating its origins

Greetings from US sister town

A US TOWN named after Dumfries is to mark its origins with an annual day of celebration.

Dumfries, Virginia, took form in the late 17th century, and was named by landowner John Graham after his Scottish birthplace.

Having been contacted by Dumfries' US cousin, Provost Jack Groom said: "They've sent across a resolution thanking us for being one of their sister cities."

He added: "They are making May 11 Dumfries Charter Day. The charter resolution and greeting says, 'The town greatly values its tie to Dumfries, Scotland, and the town honours that heritage.'"

Dumfries, VA, sits on land at the head of the harbor of Quantico Creek, which received its charter from the Colonial government in Williamsburg, Virginia, on May 11 1749.

It currently has a population of just under 5000.

Provost Groom says that a letter of gratitude is being sent to officials in Virginia, thanking them for documents chronicling their town's history.

But asked if there is any prospect of visits between the towns, he said: "It would be lovely. I think it's nice to have a tie-up, even a video link. We've got this technology now — I think it would be great."