

King George III - as Scientist

King George built the King's Observatory in Richmond for his own observations of the Transit of Venus in 1769.

When William Herschel discovered Uranus in 1781, he at first named it *Georgium Sidus* (George's Star) after the King, who later funded the construction and maintenance of Herschel's 1785 40 foot telescope, the largest ever built at that time.

Under George III, the British Agricultural Revolution reached its peak and great advances were made in fields such as science and industry.

George's collection of mathematical and scientific instruments is now owned by King's College London, but housed in the Science Museum to which it has been on long-term loan since 1927.



Extract from Observations on the Transit of Venus, a manuscript notebook from the collections of George III, listing George, Charlotte and those attending them.