1042-01-157 **Hardy Grant*** (`hardygrant@yahoo.com`), 5010 Opeongo Road, PO Box 165, RR 3, Woodlawn, ON K0A 3M0, Canada. *Eighteenth-Century Mathematics in Cultural Context.* Preliminary report. This talk will be a "dry run" for a planned presentation on the same theme to an upcoming interdisciplinary conference that will focus specifically on the year 1759. A typical member of the audience on that occasion can be presumed not to possess specialist knowledge of the mathematics of that age or of its history. In such an exercise in consciousness-raising, what can or should one say? I shall try to sketch, in accessible terms, something of the contemporary technical progress in mathematics, with due notice of the kind of limitations memorably lampooned by Berkeley. Another potential theme is the increasing attempt at quantification, conspicuous in many spheres, after about 1760. A widespread exaltation of mathematics and of its methodology, stemming above all from the example of Newton, is well known; perhaps less familiar are the reservations about the subject voiced by competent observers like Buffon (mathematics is at bottom a mere tautology) and Diderot (the mathematical mine will soon be worked out). I shall welcome listeners' input. (Received August 18, 2008)