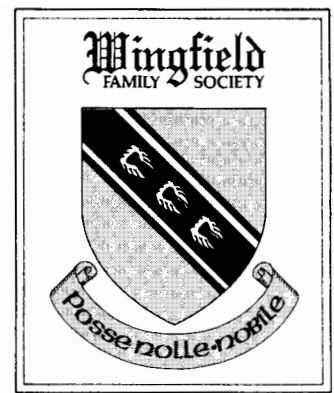


newsletter

"Wynkefeld The Saxon held honor and fee, ere William The Norman came over the sea"
... Ancient Suffolk England Rhyme

Vol. IV, No. 3

Summer, 1990



Surprise Lord of Manor Ceremony Pleases members at Atlanta meeting

The new Lord of the Manor of Wingfield, Vance Wingfield, appointed manorial officers to assist him in carrying out his duties in a special ceremony at the Renaissance Hotel at our annual meeting.

It all happened when a group of medieval costumed court officer nominees paraded to assigned tables before a packed meeting room in Atlanta. Rumors had circulated throughout the day about a special program scheduled after dinner Friday night, but no one expected to see such an elaborate and impressive medieval ceremony in this country in connection with appointing the new officers of the Wingfield Manor by the new Lord of the Manor.

Following an ancient custom, the Lord made appointments of staff to assist him in fulfilling his (now) ceremonial duties. These officers, selected from the membership of the WFS, agreed to serve until the manor title is officially turned over to the president of the Wingfield Family Society. At that time the new Lord of the Manor may re-appoint or appoint new officers.

The titles of the officers seem strange, archaic and ancient in our modern world, but in medieval times responsibilities were seriously delegated to an appropriate person to assist the Lord of the Manor.

Jocelyn Wingfield from London opened the ceremonies and introduced the Lord of the Manor, set the scene with descriptive historical remarks, then relinquished the podium.

The Lord (Vance Wingfield) was appropriately clad with a frilled, wide brim hat with large purple feathers, announced his selections for the various posts and each nominee came forth and agreed to serve.

Some of the strange "job descriptions"

brought a giggle from the audience. After all, does Vance really need a hangman or a common Herdsman?

Following are the official appointments: Dale Ruf of Rockville, MD., Stewart; Dr. Robert Wingfield of Burlington, Ontario, Common Herdsman; Richard Quarles, Princeton, NJ, Assessor; Bud and Opal Wingfield of Ault, CO Warreners; Elva Wingfield of Phoenix, AZ, Woodward; George Wingfield, Somerset, England, Ale Taster; Gloria Wingfield of Somerset, England, Deputy Stewart; Hershel O. Wingfield, Jr. from San Francisco, Reeve; Jocelyn Wingfield, London, Bellman; Judith Walker, El Paso, TX, Hayward; Lennie Mills, Corpus Christi, TX, Bailiff; Lois



Dale Ruf appointed Stewart

Wickham, Ashland, VA., Remembrancer; Louis A. Wingfield of East Leroy, MI, Foreman of the Homage; Louis Wingfield of Mayer, AZ., Hangman; Mary Wingfield of West Sussex, Pinfolder; and finally, Virginia Tierney, Bakersfield, CA., Beadle. Due to the absence of a few officers, stand-ins accepted the appointment.

A mixture of ceremony with a twenty first century light touch made the historical evening entertaining and the obvious enthusiasm by the new manorial officers left everyone with a feeling of pride in just being a part of the Wingfield Family Society.

What other family society has a genuine title?

Directors elected as proposed

The membership elected the following directors for the WFS as nominated at the Atlanta Meeting in April. They are Maria Butler, Dale Ruf, Michael Walker and Jocelyn Wingfield (re-elected). All were elected for a three year term.

The Spring issue of the newsletter gave a short resume about each. We congratulate them and certainly thank the retiring directors for their service to the Society.

Georgia meeting a hit!

An impressive 115 delegates attended one or more functions of the April, 1990 Georgia meeting of the Wingfield Family Society making it the second largest attended annual meeting for the society. The largest being our first meeting in Ashland in 1987, with 146 members and prospects in attendance. Fifteen members of the Terrell Society joined the WFS one evening to hear their treasurer Elizabeth Terrell speak about the Terrell Society. The Terrells have intermarried with the Wingfields over the years, particularly in Georgia.



Speaker, Elizabeth Terrell

The highlight of the 4th annual meeting was a trip to the town of Washington, Georgia in Wilkes County. Three charter buses took 102 members on a full day tour passing through rural Georgia countryside, displaying abundant dogwood, before visiting several of the former early homes of the

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Lord of the Manor, Vance Wingfield

Georgia meeting a hit!

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Georgia Wingfields that migrated there in 1784. A delightful lunch was served at the Washington Woman's Club in center of town.

At the luncheon, Councilwoman Mrs. Estelle Brown representing Washington's Mayor Pope, presented a commemorative plaque to our president, Wilsie Carr, declaring April 7 as "Wingfield Day."

The group also toured the Wilkes County Museum and saw the artifacts of Confederate Capt. John Wingfield from the Civil War. Several descendants of this veteran, including John Wingfield from Perry, GA, Burwell and son Ryan Wingfield of Lexington, VA, were on the tour. They met Penelope Willis, a resident of Washington, Georgia, who is of their line, and was there to display an antique quilt made by her grandmother.



Left to right Burwell Wingfield, Mrs. Penelope Willis and John Wingfield at the Museum in Washington, Georgia

Dr. J. T. Bryson Director of Tourism for the Wilkes County Chamber of Commerce was the main speaker on Saturday night. He told the group about conditions in Wilkes County, Georgia in 1784 when the Wingfields arrived at the close of the Revolutionary War.

Next meeting... Charlottesville, VA May 17-19, 1991

The board of directors approved Charlottesville, Virginia as the location for the 5th Annual meeting of the WFS.

It seems appropriate that all members have an opportunity to visit Albemarle County, Virginia as this area figured so prominently in the history of the early Wingfields and still has so many descendants living there.

The first appearance of the name Wingfield in Albemarle County, occurred in 1762. At that time, Mary the wife of John Wingfield and daughter of Charles Hudson, conveyed to her son, Charles, a part of five hundred acres named Prospect, on which

he was then living, and that she had received from her father. It is believed the house was built between 1741 and 1762. The house is still standing and the members will be able to see it.

Mark your calendars and hold these dates open.

Following the 1991 meeting, we plan to operate a 10 day tour to England. More details will follow about the tour as they are developed.

The English connection, Wm Wingfield/ Richard Lee

By Jocelyn Wingfield

The first William Wingfield in Virginia 1667 was shipped out by Col. Richard Lee of Coton Hall located a bit south of Onslow, Shrewsbury. There is a William Wingfield on the Onslow family tree who works out exactly and to me looks more and more like the one as opposed to a Tickencote connection even though the Lee's Library at Coton Hall was eventually brought to Tickencote.

Ed Note: The Lee library sadly was lost when Tickencote Hall was demolished in 1947.

Inexpensive Wingfield Book

A couple of months ago the WFS committee on publishing ordered 250 copies of a book printed in England especially for Wingfield Family Society members.

Susan Cavanagh made the arrangements with the author, Dr. John Blatchly of Ipswich, whom she met in England in 1988 while on the Wingfield tour.

The 30 page book is entitled, "The Lost and Mutilated Memorials of the Bovile & Wingfield Families at Letheringham, Suffolk." This second printing updates the book to 1990 correcting several omissions and errors.

The cost is only \$5 so there is hardly a member that should not have this book in their collection. It is professionally printed with many illustrations. Those that were on the 1988

England tour will remember Dr. Blatchly's presentation in the Church at Letheringham and the tremendous amount of historical details given about the family.

The book illustrates several brasses still in the Letheringham Church, the more notable is that of Sr. John Wingfield (d. 1389). This brass is in excellent condition and is quite large measuring 5' 2" tall. This brass of Sr John has had many rubbings made

using it as a pattern, displayed in a several Wingfield homes in the U.S.

The pedigree chart in the book shows 9 generations of Wingfields and 4 of Boviles. It covers a span of years from 1307 to 1638.

Send \$5 per copy (which includes handling and mailing), to the address on this newsletter, and mark it "Lost Memorials" and you will be sent one of these books post haste. If you are in an area where there are an abundant number of Wingfields, you may also want to give your local genealogical library a copy. It is a great research source.

The Kings & Queens Jingle

In Britain it seems we always need to place a monarch's name to a period in English history. Especially after 1055 (Kings didn't mean much before Willie the Conqueror). Whether you are a historian or not, the following useful jingle is a fun way to remember at least the succession of English monarchs:

Willie, Willie, Harry, Steve;
Harry, Dick, John, Harry Three;
One, Two, Three Neds, Richard Two;
Harry Four, Five, Six then who?

Edwards Four, Five, Dick the Bad;
Harrys twain and Ned the lad;
Mary, Bessie, James the Vain,
Charlie, Charlie, James again.

Will and Mary, Anna Gloria,
Georges Four, Will, Victoria.
Ned, then George, then Ned who quit,
George and Bess fill up the writ.

After her who shall it be?
Right now it looks like Charlie Three.

Just a dog gone killing

Dorothy Wingfield of Saco, Maine does research of true interesting short stories. She is co-editor of the "Trinity Church Newsletter," and picked up the following from the Arkadelphia, Arkansas, "Murreesboro Courier" date August 26, 1809.

"On last Saturday morning at about nine o'clock a killing occurred at Beirne in which Oliver Wingfield and Hez West were principles. It seems that Wingfield killed a dog belonging to West more than a year ago and since then there has been bad feelings between the two. The facts, as we have learned them, were that Wingfield heard reports that West had said he would kill him and when the two happened to be at Beirne on Saturday at the same time Wingfield leveled down on his enemy with a shot gun

and killed him.

After killing his man Wingfield gave himself up to the officers and was brought to jail here to await the action of the Grand Jury."

According to Dorothy Wingfield, who gave us the story, the Wests were believed to be relatives to the Wingfields. Dorothy did not claim close kinship to either, or share Oliver's fate with us.

Wingfields, Claypooles & President Bush

Evelyn Claypoole Bracken, 80 of Indiana, PA, author of "Claypoole Family of America," noticed a news article that carried the family tree of President George Bush tracing common bloodlines to hers, going back to Lady Elizabeth Goushill who was married to Sir Robert Wingfield (d 1483). By Evelyn's analysis, she is about the 12th cousin of the president. Both are descendants of Edward I, King of England and Malcolm III, King of Scotland.

Mrs. Bracken states all the Claypooles in America have Wingfield Ancestry and has written a book, "The Claypool Family of America" (five volumes) that traces this lineage to names familiar to Wingfield researchers, such as Lady Elizabeth Goushill (m. Sir Robert Wingfield of Letheringham),

their son, Sir Henry Wingfield of Orford, brother of Elizabeth Wingfield who married William Brandon was the ancestor of President Bush. The grandson of Sir Henry Wingfield of Orford, Sir Robert Wingfield of Upton married Elizabeth Cecil (daughter of Richard Cecil and sister of William Cecil). William Cecil was First Lord Burleigh, Treasurer of Queen Elizabeth I, 1555-1587. Their daughter Dorothy Wingfield married Adam Claypoole and their son was Sir John Claypoole member of Parliament.

Mrs. Bracken reports volume I gives the ancestry back to Heli, King of the Britains (d. 62 B.C.), volume II of her book shows ancestry to English King Egbert the Great, 802-839.

Although the Wingfield connection is given, the books list mainly the descendants of James and Helen Mercer Claypoole who came to Philadelphia, PA in 1683.

"Who is this man" identified!



Archibald Wingfield

He is Archibald Simpson Wingfield, a Georgia Wingfield. The last newsletter printed the above photo with the question, "Who is this man?" It had been sent to our president, Wilsie Carr by Paula Weil of Corpus Christi and thought to be either Samuel Barnett Wingfield or Archibald Simpson Wingfield.

Upon the receipt of the spring newsletter, Samuel Barnett Wingfield of Martinez, GA called Wilsie Carr and identified the mystery man as definitely Archibald Simpson Wingfield. Samuel has the original of the picture and is the great, great grandson of the subject. The picture was painted in 1841 when Archibald Simpson Wingfield was 40 years old.

As a result of the article, Samuel Wingfield had five copies made of his picture in color for other interested descendants of Archibald Simpson Wingfield.

WFS members attending the Atlanta meeting visited the home of Archibald S. Wingfield in Washington, GA.

WFS member cools off

Pilot Doug Epps (husband of Dee Wingfield Epps) is in Greenland this summer to help dig out of the ice military airplanes of the Lost Squadron of World War II.

Doug Epps

Eight aircraft were lost in 1942 when decoyed by false radio transmissions from a German submarine, then ran out of fuel and crash landed on the ice in Greenland.

There are two B-17s, and six P-38s, still buried and preserved under 250 feet of ice. The planes were located last year by the Greenland Expedition Society, and samples of the skin of one brought back. Since early May the expedition has been back in Greenland with technology to bore a 42 inch shaft to reach the planes. Hopefully they will be able to get the fighters out this summer. After September 1, the work will have to stop as winter approaches.

The planes were forgotten until 1970 when Pat Epps Of Atlanta heard about it from one of the P-38 pilots of the lost squadron and recruited his brother, Doug Epps to help fly supplies in.

Doug's brother, Pat Epps and Richard Taylor founded the Greenland Expedition Society about 3 years ago just to recover the airplanes.

Recently Doug retired as a captain for Delta Airlines and lives in Jonesboro, GA.



newsletter

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for its members
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Ancestor verified

by D.A.R.

If you are a descendant of John Wingfield (b. ca. 1740, d. 1802, m. 1. Susan_____, 2. Elizabeth_____ from Hanover County, Virginia), you may now use this relationship to establish eligibility to join the Daughters of the American Revolution. He is the son of John Wingfield and Mary Hudson, and signed the Hanover Petition on 6 June, 1783, along with several other Wingfields.

Lee and Charline Preston have received word from the office of the Registrar General of the National Society of Daughter of the American Revolution has been satisfied that this John Wingfield is a Revolutionary War patriot.

Several others helped Lee and Charline Preston get this Wingfield ancestor approved, which means any descendant of this John Wingfield may use him as the basis of their membership. Credit goes to Lois Wickham, (Ashland, VA), Dr. Bill

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WFS MEMBER PROFILE

Josephine Harris Wasson



Jo Wasson

Josephine Harris Wasson believes it is important that a "Wingfields in America" book be written, published and on bookshelves across the nation soon. She spends many hours in various libraries researching Wingfield and related family lines as she has done for almost 40 years.

Josephine, known as Jo, was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama, the oldest of two daughters of Farley Wingfield Harris and Josephine Aldrich Harris.

Her father was the youngest graduate from the Birmingham Medical College. A surgeon in Birmingham throughout his life, he died in 1955. Her mother studied sculpting in New York City and designed miniature portrait dolls, mostly of George and Martha Washington. They were widely sought by collectors for many years.

Jo attended Birmingham primary schools and graduated from Birmingham Southern college with a B. A. in English and history. These subjects have been of consuming interest throughout her life.

Josephine is from the John Wingfield-Mary Hudson line of Albemarle County, Virginia. Her great grandmother, Elizabeth Wingfield married Thomas Farley in 1842. He recognized the importance of developing railroads and saw opportunities in southeast Virginia as a hub from where the rail lines would fan out. He opened a hotel in Bristol, Virginia about 1857 then lost everything when the boom failed to develop and of course, the war between the States began.

There was no mass migration of her family from Virginia to Alabama, only a single move taking Jo's grandmother from Virginia to Montgomery in 1872 and then to Birmingham about 1900.

After college and during World War II Jo was employed in Birmingham for the U.

S. Army Ordinance District compiling reports, and assessing ordinance shipments to army depots. From here she transferred to Miami Beach, serving with U. S. Air Force Personnel Redistribution Center. At the end of the War and V.J. Day, the office was closed and everyone went home rejoicing. Jo went back to Birmingham.

She married in 1946 and moved to a small old south plantation town, Camden, Alabama. Here she raised 2 daughters, Garland Wingfield Cook and Jean Lindsay Cook. Then off to the Space Age environment, involving NASA and rocket scientists in Huntsville, Alabama.

Garland attended school briefly with Wernher von Braun's daughter Iris. Jo and the girls moved back to Birmingham in 1962 and she has been there ever since.

In Birmingham her interests are in a hard working literary club, a demanding reading club, and a weekly luncheon group of six for recreation.

Through the years Jo has done work with the Presbyterian church including a service Guild, a closely knit group assisting with all church rituals. Years in a needlework Guild has allowed her to indulge in her hobby of needlework. She has made wedding kneeler cushions, funeral palls, sedilia cushions, ecclesiastical banners and paraments, memorial chairs for the chapel, large cushions for the Children's Chapel, and other large memorial cushions throughout the church buildings. This all gives a grand feeling of fine accomplishment.

She has found very rewarding experiences working with a support group visiting hospitals to encourage patients recovering from the rare paralyzing neurological ailment, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, from which she herself recently recovered. They help each other, and this is an activity that offers a reward in helping others.

She enjoys theater and almost every year goes to New York and attends as many new and exciting plays as can be seen in a week, almost non stop with matinee and night performances.

Jo also attends the Ballet on some trips. As a charter member of Alabama's outstanding new Shakespeare Theater in Montgomery, she sees all of their plays. She enjoys traveling with her daughters and two grandchildren (Lathrop Smith III age 17 and his sister Lindsay Sevier Smith, 9). This is a high priority in Jo's life. Husband Richard (Dick) Wasson is a senior account executive with Merrill Lynch and has been for 35 years. Both love their children and Jo classifies Dick as the world's best stepfather.

Daughter Lindsay Cook is an interior design artist with special talents in office planning, civic work and bible study. Lindsay loves to travel. Recently she spent a summer in the Cayman Islands teaching a Bible Class. The elder daughter, Garland Smith serves on the boards of the Alabama State Ballet, Red Mountain Archaeological Museum and is involved in Operation Downtown Birmingham

Restoration Project. Garland's husband, Lathrop Smith, Jr., is an avid golfer and skier, and owns the Industrial Supply Company of Birmingham. They travel extensively.

The grandchildren are top students, and are very interested in golf, skiing, basketball, soccer, for which they have won many trophies. They are also active in painting and creative writing.

Josephine's genealogy interest was sparked when she started putting records in the family bible after daughter Garland was born in 1949. A trip to the Archives in Montgomery and the enthusiasm of the curator, who knew all about the Wingfields and displayed many references, got her hooked.

Taking advance study courses at Birmingham's Samford Genealogical Institute under noted researchers such as John Frederick Dorman (Virginia) and Jo White Linn (NC), whetted her appetite even further and prepared her to develop genealogical expertise.

At first Jo worked only on the Wingfield line but as her skills advanced, she expanded her interest in Genealogy to include research for all branches of her line. Now there are 30 odd years of research in all major libraries and archives east of Mississippi, plus an accumulation of a large library of rare books on the family and roomful of large notebooks.

She has helped dozens of cousins tie in to hundreds of lines. Voluminous and on going correspondence from all over the country has brought more mail in than she can answer.

Now a Lineage Researcher for her local DAR chapter and Colonial Dames, she helps candidates solve minor problems in getting papers approved.

She has contributed to John Bennett Boddie's "Historical Southern Families," Vols III and IV, "The Loving Family in American," by Read: "Threadgills in America," Vol. II by Miller; "Index to Alabama Wills, 1808-1870"; "Aldrich, Alabama, My Hometown," by Emfinger; "The Bledsoe Family Supplement," by John T. Bledsoe; and numerous genealogical quarterlies, notably a few lines (on her branch of the family) to Dick Quarles' very important Wingfield article in the May 1988 "Magazine of Virginia Genealogy." Jo contributes to the WFS newsletter.

She has fun researching "Wingfields in History" for publication in the Wingfield Family Society newsletter.

Many libraries have received her donation of books, pamphlets and manuscripts over the years. Jo does pen and ink drawings and has painted coats of arms for more people than she cares to remember.

Currently she is submitting her Wingfield lineage to the DAR as a supplemental line with proof so concrete that it can never be challenged. This is for the benefit of future generations.

In the immediate future is a much anticipated trip to Willimasburg with her two daughters and sister, but this time they will be showing it to her little granddaughter, so she can see where the Wingfields helped found this great country.

Then she'll be ready to devote time and efforts toward the project of compiling the Wingfields in America book.

Jo Wasson's energy never stops.

Ancestor verified

(continued from page 3)

Wingfield, deceased (Marl Ridge, VA), whose records were vital to this lineage. Also thanks to Jocelyn Wingfield (London), Dr. Richard Quarles (Princeton, NJ), and Virginia Brickell (Indianola, MS) who descended from John Wingfield's daughter, Elizabeth and who married Walter Leake, Governor of Mississippi.

WFS President has Grandson

Wilsie Wingfield Carr, president of the WFS announced the birth of her first grandchild, Thomas Callaway Schenck in Tampa, Florida on June 15. Both Grandparents, Wilsie and Bob Carr are doing fine.

Manors, Titles their History and what they are today

Since Vance Wingfield is now Lord of the Manor of Wingfield, many are curious as to: how titles evolved, some of the history, and what this and other manorial titles really mean today.

Lordships of manors are the oldest titles in England. Some date from Saxon times. The Conquest in 1066 strengthened the system and William the Conqueror issued new royal grants

giving many manors to his knights, some of which subdivided them further into smaller parcels to the more deserving rank and file soldiers. Manorial titles originated with William I, but it is believed the lordship of Wingfield preceded this, perhaps as a more basic but nevertheless organized system. After 444 and before 1066, England was divided into tithings (e.g. 10 families each of up to about 5 family members). Ten tithings is made up of about 100 families. Under the view of "Frankpledge," if anyone in the hundred committed an offense, all were punished. With peer pressure people tended to behave.

The farm of Wigha or Wghafelda was

in the Hundred of Hoxne before 1066. Then came the Norman invasion and 20 years later, the Conqueror had a grand survey made of land and possessions down to the last pig and plough. Recorded in the "Doomsday Book," the entry for Wingfield reads: "In Wighafelda a freeman by commendation and soche held 10 acres valued at 20d."

A manor has been defined as a certain circuit of ground granted by the King to some baron or man of worth as an inheritance for him and his heirs. But with the obligation to exercise such jurisdiction within the area of the manor as the King saw fit to grant. This was subject to performance of such services and yearly rents as were by the grant required.

These land allotments were called "feoda, fiefs or fees, which indicates property held under certain conditions. One condition being the possessor should serve faithfully, both in peace and wartime, to the person who allotted them the land or suffer forfeiture. This introduced a system of military subordination, in effect, so each individual was already enlisted and in a state of readiness to the defense of his property, and that of the lord and king, constituting the original feudal system.

The manorial system was the only form of local government for centuries, so it was the lord of the manor's responsibility to dispense justice through the manorial court. Many of the records of these courts survive to this day. The principal officers of a manor appointed by the lord of the manor are the steward, the bailiff and the reeve. It is the steward who usually presides at the manorial courts on behalf of the lord of the manor. There were great variations

in the administration of manors that developed during the centuries. Some manors had other officers such as constables, ale tasters and leather searchers.

A manorial court was held at set intervals until about the 15th century when the business was often concentrated into two main sessions. Before the Conquest, English kings allowed the landholders wide jurisdiction except over serious cases of robbery and violence. Feudal custom gave the manorial court the right to try offenders before a court composed of manorial tenants. The peasantry could sue one another in the manorial court for minor cases of debt, contract, trespass and assault. The court could enforce the lord's rights against those who failed to render their dues to him or had encroached on his property.

The manorial lord provided land to build the church, a parsonage house, and perhaps some funds and building materials. Once built, the church depended upon the manor for its income in the form of tithes. The bishop was content, in return for these benefits, to allow the lord of the manor to nominate the clergy.

The copyhold system of land ownership meant that, although the land was

virtually freehold, it could only be transferred by paying an entry fine to the lord of the manor, usually through the steward and receiving a copy of the entry of the new owner's particulars recorded in the manorial roll.

Thus when Parliament passed the 1922 Law of Property Act, abolishing copyhold and converting it into freehold, this was a blow to the manorial system. The lord of the manor was

compensated by a payment for the loss of copyhold income.

In one way the 1922 Act strengthened the manorial system because the twelfth schedule lists a great many manorial privileges which were not abolished. The schedule has the effect of confirming them to those who are entitled to them. For example there may be rights to the minerals under the

manorial land. Also the rights conferred by royal charters and letters patent still belong to the lord of the manor.

A manorial lordship is an incorporeal property; literally property without body as distinguished from land which is corporeal. It exists independently of the area of land where the title originated. The title has a fully traceable history of ownership since the time of its creation by Royal Charter.

The manorial documents, many of which are centuries old, are usually in good condition. They cannot leave their place of storage, but may be copied. There is no ban on ownership being transferred to a foreign national, man or woman.

In 1335 Sir John Wingfield received a Royal Charter of free warren as lord of the manor of Wingfield from King Edward III. Katherine Wingfield, an heiress who had succeeded to this title and estate, married Michael de la Pole in 1360. De la Pole is the presumed builder of Wingfield Castle. He was created Earl of Suffolk and is mentioned, as lord of the manor on the patent rolls of King Edward III, preserved at the Public Records office in London. He was followed as Lord of the Manor by 2 Earls and 2 Dukes of Suffolk and their heir, John, Earl of Lincoln, who nearly came to the throne.

Other manorial entries in the Record are:

In 1272, Giles Wingfield was chaplain of the Manor of Wingfield. In 1275 Richard de Brews, a crusader, held Wingfield Old Manor. His son, William, went overseas in 1279 and appointed John de Wingfield attorney of his manors. Richard de Wingfield of the Manor of Wingfield was appointed Park Keeper in 1311, alias Pinfolder at Framlingham Castle. Roger Wingfield of Wingfield was appointed Keeper of the Privy Seal which he lost during the battle of Bannockburn in Scotland. 1326 Royal Patent granted to John de Wingfield of Wingfield Manor in respect of 69 acres, held in charge of Edward I. In 1335 John Wingfield and his heirs were granted free

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Other manorial entries in the Record are:

(continued from page 5)

warren at Wingfield, Earsham, etc. With the marriage of Eleanor de Glanville to Sir John Wingfield who was Lord of the two main Wingfield manors, this involved making four Wingfield manors one. King Edward III purchased one hundred and sixty quarters of wheat and three hundred quarters of malt from John Wingfield at Wingfield Manor to be sent to Calais. Sir John Wingfield of the Manor of Wingfield was appointed Steward of the Black Prince's lands.

The Lord of the Manor of Wingfield title followed a stormy path of being forfeited, regranted, reclaimed, but never before sold, being held by the de la Poles and the Crown until 1538 when it was granted by Henry VIII to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk (Brandon was of Wingfield blood). From here it again left the family. The lordship has been held by 18 individuals over the last 450 years until it was sold in November, 1989 to Vance Wingfield for the Wingfield Family Society. Vance is thought to be the 39th Lord of the Manor of Wingfield going back to Robert de Wingfield (living in 1087).

Manorial Titles How valuable?

The title, Lord of the Manor of Wingfield was obtained for £8000 pounds at auction by Vance Wingfield in November, 1989. He was reimbursed by voluntary donations from the members, with the understanding that it becomes the property of the Wingfield Family Society.

Some prudent members have asked if this was a good buy, if we overpaid, or if indeed it should have been purchased at all.

English titles can now be passed on to others by inheritance, gift or sale. Yes, there is a market for them and a title can always be resold, usually at auction. The better known titles, as one might suspect, sell for a higher price. For example the title, Lord of the Manor of Stratford-upon-Avon sold for £95,700 (about \$162,000.) in 1989. A feudal barony in Scotland went for £99,000 to an unknown Canadian at a London auction lately, the most ever for any sale of a title in England.

If the WFS gets into financial trouble, we can always sell the title...or maybe it can be mortgaged?

Contributors to purchase "Lord of the Manor" Title

The following member and non-mem-

ber contributions toward the purchase of the title, "Lord of the Manor of Wingfield" made the successful bid (£8,000, or approximately \$14,000) possible:

The names are randomly (Alphabetically by first initial) listed and the order shown does not reflect the amounts given.

Alice Hodson, Midlothian, VA, Ann Maria Butler, Richmond, VA, Betsey Hughes, Birmingham, Betty Gamache, Richmond, Bill Mahone, Charlottesville, VA, Cecil & Ruth Wingfield, Fremont, CA, Charles Liberty, Springfield, VA, Charline and Lee Preston, Walnut Creek, CA, Charlotte McWhorter, Concord, NC, Christine Kameen, Baltimore, Clifford Wingfield, Castro Valley, CA, Dale and Ray Ruf, Rockville, MD, Dee Epps, Jonesboro, GA, Dennis Murphy, Highland Beach, FL, Derek Wingfield, Lexington, VA, Doris Wasden, West Valley, UT, Dorothy and Paul Shively, Little Rock, AR, Dr and Mrs Robert Wingfield, Burlington, Ontario, Dr Albert Rayle, Jr, Atlanta, GA, Dr Benjamin Koonce, Raleigh, NC, Dr Billy Wingfield, Petersburg, VA, Dr Burwell Wingfield, Lexington, VA, Dr Richard Quarels, Princeton, NJ, Dr Sidney Conolly, Corpus Christi, TX, Dr William Wingfield, Jr., Mt Pleasant, SC, Edna James, Shreveport, LA, Edwin Wingfield, Urbana, OH, Bud and Opal Wingfield, Ault, CO, Elizabeth Caretto, Goleta, CA, Elva Wingfield, Phoenix, AZ, Emmett Wingfield, III, Birmingham, Evelyn Estes, Denver, Fred and Martha Wingfield, Jr, Benton, AR, George Wingfield, Shepton Mallet, England, Gerry and Betty Dutton, El Dorado, AR, Gertrude Wingfield, Camp Verde, AZ, Gloria Wingfield, Shepton Mallet, England, Harrison Wingfield III, Longview, TX, Hart Shiver, Athens, GA, Hazel Spears, Porterville, CA, Hershel Wingfield, Rio Vista, CA, Hershel Wingfield, Jr., San Francisco, CA, Hettie Kimball, Greenwood, MS, Irene Wingfield, Phoenix, AZ, James Patterson, Austin, TX, Jane Gray, San Antonio, TX, Jimmie Wingfield, Kilgore, TX, Jocelyn Wingfield, London, England, John and Dorothy Wingfield, Perry, GA, John Wingfield, Olympia, WA, John Wingfield, Christ Church, New Zealand, Josephine Ray, Corpus Christi, TX, Judith Walker, El Paso, TX, Julia Gatling, Jackson, MS, Lee Britton, Petoskey, MI, Lennie Mills, Corpus Christi, TX, Lenora Rogers, Hillsborough, NC, Lloyd Wingfield, Midway City, CA, Lois Wickham, Ashland, VA, Louis Wingfield, East Leroy, MI, Louis Wingfield, Mayer, AZ, Margaret Rowbottom, Simcoe, Ontario, Mark Wingfield, Park City, UT, Mary Lou Hilburn, Shreveport, LA, Mary Teel, Charlottesville, VA, Mary Wingfield, Bognor Regis, England, Middleton and Frances Wingfield, Jr., Memphis, TN, Mildred Wingfield, Richmond, Millie Wingfield, Deland, FL, Nancy Wingfield, Burwood, Australia, Olief Price, Hawkinsville, GA, Paula Weil, Corpus Christi, TX, Ralph Wingfield, St Claire Shores, MI, Richard Conolly, Corpus Christi, TX, Robert Wingfield, Barrie, Ontario,

Robert Wingfield, Deland, FL, Robert Wingfield, Northbrook, IL, Robert Wingfield, N. Little Rock, AR, Ruth Wingfield, Arlington, TX, Ryan Wingfield, Lexington, VA, Sam Wingfield, Martinez, GA, Sam Wingfield, III, Great Neck, NY, Sarella Wolff, Deland, FL, Scott Zen-Ruffinen, Randolph, MA, Susan Cavanagh, Athens, GA, Thomas Wingfield, Bellingham, WA, Tommie Wingfield, Ft Worth, TX, Troyce and Joseph Tullier, Baton Rouge, LA, Vance Wingfield, Ft Worth, TX, Virginia Brickell, Indianola, MS, Virginia Tierney, Bakersfield, CA, Walter Wingfield, III, Falls Church, VA, Wayne Wingfield, DVM, Ft Collins, CO, Wendy Wingfield, Arlington, TX, Wilsie and Bob Carr, Belleair, FL, Young and Lucille Orsburn, N. Little Rock, AR.

We thank each and every one. It was a great effort and a valuable asset has been added to the Wingfield Family Society.

Risky rewards

Being King (or Queen) of England is not a job that produces good candidates for happiness and long life. Indeed history reveals their chances of living a long, royal life and dying of old age on a scale of 1 to 10 is about 2.

Does the few years of prestige and power that feeds a royal ego really add up to be worthwhile? If so, it certainly wasn't evident as throughout history the monarchs were either striving to stay in power or conniving to get there.

Landed gentry like the Wingfields in medieval England fared better and even allowed for a less stressful life including hobnobbing with kings, and marrying royalty.

Think about it. What was being king all about? Searching the realm reclaiming estates, assessing taxes, cavorting with wenches, vacationing in the many castles, raising armies, engaging in gluttonous feasts, hunting in the royal forests, receiving ambassadors, all with an awesome display of ceremonial splendor?

Everything is a compromise, and on the downside, the monarchs could trust few if any. It was how to keep blood relatives and imposters from claiming the throne. Dispose of them? As long as a claimant lived they were a threat. Were the kings murderers or was royalty exempt from accusation if it was done in the name of the Crown or at least while in power?

Medieval England was constantly going to war to either protect the realm or expand it. France wanted the areas of Brittany, Normandy or Aquitaine to be French, not English. Scotland and Ireland wanted to be separate countries. Kings were trained to lead the warriors into battle, not the safest vocation. Wars were hell then as they are today, and just as dangerous. Yes, really dangerous for the heads of state that led the knights and warriors into the thick of battle. One bright spot was the king was worth less

dead than alive as dead kings cannot be captured and ransomed. Of course there was no assurance or protection from being wounded or killed in the foray of clashing swords.

For England it was France that seemed to be the constant threat and enemy and had to be put down, again and again. The French would simply exclaim, "We want our land to be French!" The Scots and Irish were seemingly always a thorn in the royal side.

Diseases and weakness of character took a toll. All in all a long life was seldom in the cards. Being King was a tough occupation! Being queen was somewhat better, but they still had to be on constant guard against others salivating for the job.

Medicine was primitive and seldom rendered a cure. Doctors would bleed away the problem or let the leeches feast on a monarch.

Look over some of the more notable monarchs from 1066 to 1830, from William the Conqueror to William IV. William I died at age 60 of rupture. His son William II was killed with an arrow at age 43. Stephen died of the piles at 49. (The piles, does that mean he bled to death?) Henry II died of Grief at 55. Richard the Lionhearted like his great grandfather died after being shot with an arrow, ironically at the same age, 43. Edward I lived to be 65, after a reign of 37 years, then died of diarrhea. But Edward II was murdered at 47 years of age. Richard II reigned for 22 years, then died of consumption at just 35 years of age. Henry IV left this world at 46, dying of Apoplexy. Henry V died in 1422 at age 33 of Pleurisy. Henry VI was murdered at 49 and his successor, Edward IV died at 41 of Ague (whatever

that is). Edward V was smothered at age 12, and King Richard III was killed in battle at age 42. Henry VII expired of consumption at 52. Henry VIII did not die from excess of wives, but from an ulcerated leg and fever. His son, Edward VI still a boy of 15 died from consumption. His sisters, Mary died at 42 of dropsy and Elizabeth reigned for the next 44 years and left this world at 69 by course of nature (old age). Charles I was beheaded at 48. Mary II (of William and Mary) died at 32 of Smallpox and her husband, William III fell from his horse and died at 52. One king, George III lived to the ripe old age of 82 dying in 1820 after reigning for 59 years, but he was the exception to the rule.

Modern English kings and queens have it better today. But while the power is gone, the ceremonial aspect still remains, and they live in an idyllic royal splendor with a long life that the medieval monarches never attained.

Powerscourt House, Dublin

By Tony Wingfield

Powerscourt House on William Street, Dublin, Ireland, was built during the period of 1771 to 1774 by Richard, 3rd Viscount Powerscourt (of the 3rd creation) to the design of Robert Mack at a cost of £8,000 which seems fantastically cheap even in those days. It was regarded as the third most elegant house in Dublin at the time and was used by the Wingfield family for a generation of high society in the capitol city of Ireland.

There is an old story which says that when the house was being built, Lord Powerscourt had a dispute with the owner of the land opposite. Then when the house was finished, that man said, "Oh! My Lord you have built yourself a grand house there, but I'll spoil it for ye! I'll let the ground opposite your fine hall-door to fishmongers!"

Apparently the fishmongers' shops were still opposite the house on William Street in my grandfathers' day and were, perhaps, the fore-runner of its present super-market status! However they have disappeared now. Richard the 3rd Viscount, died in 1788 and his eldest son, another Richard became the 4th Viscount Powerscourt. This Richard sold the Dublin house to the Government to become the office of the Stamp Commissioners when the Union of Ireland and England took place in 1801.

Then in 1835 the Government sold it to the firm of Ferrier and Pollock who kept it in perfect order for nearly 150 years.

In 1981 it was sold to a wholesale merchant company called Power Securities who have converted it into a shopping centre.

I attended the opening ceremony of this conversion on the 19th November 1981 when Gareth Fitzgerald, the Taoiseach (Prime Minister) at the time, made a speech to a large congregation. My cousin Philip Wingfield of the Investment Bank of Ireland secured an invitation for me. The courtyard at the back of the house has become a mass of shops of high quality; while the upper rooms of the house, with their fine carvings, moulding and plaster work and magnificent mahogany staircase, are, in perfect condition.

This upper floor is now the picture gallery of a Mr Solomon and was opened by Eileen, Countess of Monnt Charles. It contained 35 paintings by the Polish artist Serge Mendjisky, born in Paris in 1929. Most of his family were killed in Poland during the second World War when he himself became involved with the French Resistance at the age of 15. Some of his pictures in the Solomon Gallery may have been sold, but there are still a good many there to be seen.

There is a picture of Powerscourt Dublin

House in my grandfather's "Muniments of the Ancient Saxon Family of Wingfield" and I have a colored print. These only show part of the house with its two archways either side of the front door. Those archways are now blocked up, but the front door can still be used.

There is now a good entrance to the shops from Clerenden Street at the back, only a few hundred yards from the Westbury Hotel off Grafton Street.

Ed Note: Do not mistake this house for Powerscourt which is 14 miles out from Dublin and is in ruins from a fire. This was the town house built for the Wingfields in the city of Dublin.

Eton College ...the Wingfield connection

By George Wingfield

This year Eton College, which is situated 20 miles west of London close to Windsor Castle, celebrates its 550th anniversary. It was founded in 1440 by King Henry VI, then aged 18, as a chantry chapel with a school and almshouses attached. It is one of the few great mediaeval scholastic foundations in England whose building, provided mainly by its founder, survive and are in use to this day. The heart of Eton is its



Jocelyn and brother George Wingfield standing beside the statue of King Henry VI, in formal school dress of black tailcoats and top hats (as worn from Victorian days) was taken in 1956. They were 18 and 13 respectively. It was taken on the Fourth of June holiday which commemorated King George III's birthday.

(continued on page 8)

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Eton College ...the Wingfield connection

(continued from page 7)

School Yard and its great gatehouse, Lupton's Tower, which was completed in the early 16th century. Throughout the year tourists from all over the world throng this yard to see what is probably the best known school in the world.

Over the years many members of the Wingfield family have been educated at Eton, and in some branches of the English family it has become something of a tradi-



Rupert Wingfield pointing out the name of his great grandfather, William "Chessie" Wingfield, carved in Upper School as was the custom of Etonians then, exactly one hundred years ago.

tion to send sons to Eton. Boys go to Eton at about the age of 13 and usually spend five years there before going on to University or joining the armed forces. An Etonian will live in one of the 24 boys' houses, each with about 50 boys supervised by a housemaster, or else, if he is a scholar, having won a scholarship, in College adjacent to School Yard.

Currently there are two Wingfields at Eton College. Rupert Wingfield, elder son of WFS member George and Gloria Wingfield, is in his last year at Eton. Also at Eton now is Rupert's third cousin, Edward, who is the son of Philip (left Eton in 1956) and Suzy Wingfield, who lives in Ireland. Edward Wingfield's Etonian great grandfather, Jack, was Chessie's youngest brother. Both were brought up at Barrington Park, near Burford, Oxfordshire. Jocelyn Wingfield, well known to WFS members, and his brother George were at Eton during the 1950s.

This year the Quincentennial +50 celebrations, which lasted two days including the Fourth of June holiday (now moved forward to the end of May) was especially lavish. Because the actual quincentennial fell during World War II and was ignored due to more urgent considerations, Etonians and Old Etonians are made up for it this year. An estimated 4000 Old Etonians and an equal number of guests gathered for this occasion and the champagne flowed. There was a great procession of boats on the River

Thames in the evening followed by a massive fireworks display.

Even before 1600 there were Wingfields at Eton, since the younger brother of Sir James Wingfield of Kimbolton attended the school there. Sir James was the owner of Kimbolton Castle when Edward Maria Wingfield returned from the Jamestown colony in 1608. The last three generations of the Wingfields of Onslow have sent sons to Eton, and among prominent Old Etonians today are WFS member Tony Wingfield, who left Eton in 1926 and now lives in Ireland, and the present squire of Barrington Park, Charles Wingfield, who left in 1942. A school which has lasted 550 years already can be expected to go on well into the next millennium, and no doubt future generations of scholarly British Wingfields will aspire to enter its academic portals.

Misc. corrections

Vol II, No 1, Winter Edition 1989, page 6:

"What happened to the Others?" This article listed early Wingfield arrivals into America researched by WFS member Lee Preston. If you keep these newsletters and wish to update and correct the information published then:

Add Thomas - 1680 This is Thomas of York River and was omitted from this list.

Delete William - 1773. He should not be on the list.

Add Alice - 1687 not on the list.

Add Anne - 1701 not on the list.

Vol IV, No. 1, Winter Edition, 1990, page 6:

"Migration to Georgia" Two dates are incorrect in the first paragraph. The fourth line the date listed as 1773 should be 1783, and seventh line the date 1774 should be 1784.

Sorry for the errors or omissions.

"Some Records of the Wingfield Family" to be republished

The book originally printed in England in 1925, is out of print, rare with fascinating details about three generations of the prominent and loyal (to the realm) family of Wingfields in Letheringham, England in the mid 15th century.

It plucks a period of history concentrating on Sir John Wingfield of Letheringham, Knight of the Bath, his father Sir Robert Wingfield, his brother, Sir Henry Wingfield, and his twelve sons and four daughters. Sir John was married to Elizabeth Fitzalan. The

Wingfields of the book are visually portrayed in the famous Tickencote picture (a page in the book) that shows each of the aforementioned members of the family in squares surrounding Sir John and Elizabeth. Each individual receives a chapter relaying interesting history about each.

The author, Lt. Colonel John Maurice Wingfield DSO, OBE, was born in 1863, the elder son of John Wingfield of Tickencote Hall, Rutland, England. He had a degree in law, but is best remembered for his service as an officer in the Coldstream Guards from 1885 to 1903. While serving in the Boer War in South Africa he was awarded the DSO for bravery and twice mentioned in dispatches.

In 1904 he returned to Tickencote Hall, Rutlands, England. He was Justice of the Peace and in 1911 High Sheriff for Rutland.

On the outbreak of World War I, he rejoined the Coldstream Guards and throughout the war was in charge of Waterloo Railway Station, London and responsible for transportation of troops to and from France.

He lived in Tickencote Hall from 1918 until 1924 at which time he moved to London until his death in 1931. Col. Wingfield was a bachelor all of his life. He had many interests and talents but his major avocation was the Wingfield family history and one of the results is the fascinating and scholarly book, "Some Records of the Wingfield Family" written in 1925.

Susan and Terry Cavanagh will be announcing details about republishing this rare and informative book that will be available to members of the WFS at a reasonable cost. The Tickencote picture in color will be in the book. Some may want to donate a copy to their library. Watch for the announcement.



President Wilsie Carr discusses plans for republishing "Some Records..." book with Susan Cavanagh of Athens, GA

Interestingly, John Parry-Wingfield of Empingham, England has an unpublished 1925 manuscript of a second book by Colonel Wingfield that hopefully we can also publish after the necessary editing has been done. We give credit to John Parry-Wingfield for the background on Lt Colonel John Maurice Wingfield.