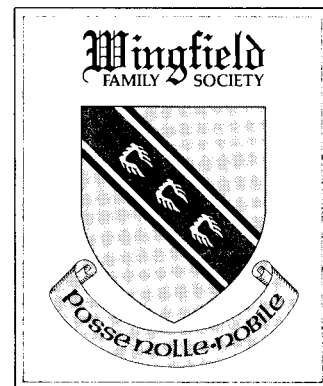


newsletter

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

Vol. VI, No. 2

Special Meeting Edition, 1992



Jamestown revisited

The truth is out

Come to the meeting for fact and fun

Williamsburg, May 13-16

Can it be said the history we read today, and written yesteryear does not reflect the bias of its author? The answer of course is accepted history can well have been maligned or slanted to fit the writers view point or prejudice. At the time an event is recorded, there may be no objection or rebuttal. This may come on reflection, later on.

Several historians have known for years that much of the saga of Jamestown, written by John Smith was not factual. Indeed, we submit that Smith's ego and conceited desire to be the hero of Jamestown got in the way of truth. John Smith's writings were, unfortu-

nately the basis for accepted Jamestown history and Edward-Maria Wingfield does not come out well with his reputation unjustly tarnished.

The fact Smith was an adversary of Edward-Maria Wingfield eliminated any expectations that Smith would report positive activities by the true founder and leader. Once history is perceived as true, it thus ostensibly becomes fact. The question now is it possible to correct history and if so how?

Ever since the formation of the Wingfield Family Society in 1987, one of the major goals was to get reputable, recognized scholars to accept a revised and correct version of the historical events of the early days at Jamestown, and so state. Or at least admit **See Page 15- Jamestown revisited**

Things to see and do in the Williamsburg Area

Come early or stay over

Jamestown Festival Park. (The other Jamestown) This is not considered the site of the actual landing of Edward-Maria Wingfield and his settlers in 1607. Festival Park is almost adjacent to Jamestown Island where the Saturday morning festivities will occur. It is believed the actual landing site has sunk and its exact location is not known, but Jamestown Island is considered to be more nearly the site. Excavations are still going on to prove the exact location. See WFS Winter 1993 newsletter, page 6, "Jamestown digs for artifacts." It is next to Jamestown Island, the location of the special ceremonies on May 15 and there are no planned activities or visits to this attraction. Visits to Jamestown Festival Park will have to be done on your own. Transportation provided on Saturday will not allow a visit there, nor is there time.

Jamestown Festival Park was constructed in 1957 to celebrate the 350th anniversary of

See Page 11 - Things to do

Williamsburg - historic and fascinating, unequalled restoration

Williamsburg known as Middle Plantation was an outpost of Jamestown in 1633. It was the midway and highest point of a palisade that the settlers built across the peninsula between the James and York Rivers.

Because of its strategic location and the strength of its defenses, Middle Plantation soon became important to the colony. Here in 1676 rebel Nathaniel Bacon and his followers held a convention, and a year later the General Assembly met there after Bacon burned the statehouse at Jamestown.

When the capital of the colony was removed from Jamestown in 1699, Middle Plantation was laid out and renamed Williamsburg in honor of King William III. For 81 years it was the seat of government and the social and cultural center of Virginia. In 1780 Governor Thomas Jefferson relocated the capital to Richmond, 50 miles to the west.

Williamsburg's colonial buildings headed toward decay, until 1926 when the Reverend Dr. W. A. R. Goodwin and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. determined to preserve the beauty and charm of the old buildings and

To Page 15 - Restored



English dancers to perform at meeting

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

We stress early registration, both for the hotel and the meeting. There are two deadlines to watch for:

April 1 for hotel: Our room allotment can be taken back April 1, but **if** rooms are available you can still make reservations on a space available basis. Once gone, the hotel will try to recommend alternate accommodations at whatever is the going rate and at the nearest facility.

May 5 for meeting: A meeting registration form (separate from the hotel) must be

To Page 11 - Deadlines

Something to think about

Eighty percent of those attending the WFS annual meetings are always the same people. No, it's not a select group. It is just that some members were interested enough to go to a meeting and now are repeats every year.

If as a member you have never attended a meeting, you might find this observation interesting and perhaps you are overlooking something. An objective perception would be that there are at least three compelling reasons that draw the same members each year.

1. The social aspect. Friends have been made and the annual reunion is a way to renew acquaintances and meet new cousins.

2. Pride and curiosity. Interest in the constant new things that are being uncovered about the Wingfields and the opportunity to see places of family significance can be the magnet. Many attendees are not avid genealogist, but the curiosity of prominent

To Page 15 - To think about

WFS PUBLISHES "VIRGINIA'S TRUE FOUNDER"

"I could not forsake ye enterprise
of opening so glorious a kingdom
unto ye king."

Captain Edward-Maria Wingfield
(Final sentence of his "A discourse
of Virginia.")

Jocelyn Wingfield's book "Virginia's True
Founder Edward-Maria Wingfield & His Times
1550 - ca. 1614" at long last is on the presses
and will be unveiled at the WFS meeting in
Williamsburg on May 14th.

The publishing has been coordinated by
Terry and Susan Cavanagh. Some of the
costs have been underwritten by several WFS



Jocelyn Wingfield
Author

members.

This is the first biography of the first
president of the first successful English speak-
ing colony in the New World. It traces
Wingfield's life and times from the mid-Tudor
to the early Stuart period. It is perhaps the
first book of that period to "straddle the
Atlantic," covering the lives of those early
settlers, first in England and Ireland and then
in Virginia. It has 480 pages, 22 pictures,
with some 850 notes and a fully comprehen-
sive index. The book, researched over ten
years in minute detail, draws on some five
hundred sources. Background on Edward-
Maria Wingfield includes material never pub-
lished before. His attendance at law school, as
a valiant soldier in the low Countries and how
he brought a would be assassin of Queen
Elizabeth to court and interrogated him with
the Queen and her spy chief. Wingfield was
the prime mover in getting the Jamestown
expedition moving, one of the Big Eight,
Virginia Company stockholders and the only
venturer representing the London Company.
This all leads up to the climax of the voyage
to the New World in 1606/07 and the early,
dismal days in the fledgling colony.

The book enumerates the lies and half-
truths that have been copied from John
Smith's writings, enlarged and elaborated
over the last 380 years. It shows that Wingfield
was not a weak man, who misappropriated

rations, who had John Smith arrested for no
real reason, who tried to escape from
Jamestown in the pinnace, who did not build
temporary defense works, or unpack the
arms. It is all disproved with chapter and verse
- some of it by Smith's own pen.

The biography also shows that Smith was
not in charge of building the fort, did not
initiate bartering with the Indians or keeping
peace with them. It points out the often
overlooked but historically correct fact that
John Smith was also disposed like his two
predecessors, that he was not sent home for
medical reasons as the history books imply.

"Virginia's True Founder.." shows that
Wingfield a comrade-in-arms and former fel-
low prisoner of the Spanish with Sir
Ferninando Gorges, was the prime mover of
the entire Jamestown enterprise (source: John
Smith), was one of the big four named in the
1606 Charter. How Wingfield and his cousin
Bartholomew Gosnold, were responsible for
recruiting around half the settlers from their
ancestral homes of Letheringham and Otley
in Suffolk, England. That he was the only
stockholder and Charter grantee to sail to the
colony. The author shows that Wingfield was
a tough Protestant, not Catholic and a cap-
tain, extremely experienced in defense works,
who sited an brilliant defensive position up
the James River.

Far from being a weak man, Wingfield
kept the men to "watching and warding" so
much that his cousin, Bartholomew Gosnold
advised him he was working the men too hard
and that he should ease up a bit. As the going
got especially tough, with starvation, disease
and Indian attacks, he was disposed. When
Christopher Newport returned from England
with supplies, he dismissed all charges as
ludicrous and freed Edward-Maria Wingfield.
On return to England, Wingfield had only to
answer the charge of being an atheist.

Every thing in the book is meticulously
researched with notes. Much of it is new
material, giving a new slant on this until now
shadowy history.

For history's sake the book had to be
written. The question is it too late to correct
the tarnished reputation of Edward-Maria
Wingfield, or is history once recorded etched
in stone?

TRANSPORTATION: Air service to area airports Transfers to & from Williamsburg

Three airports serve Williamsburg: Rich-
mond, Newport News/Williamsburg and
Norfolk. What airport is the best for you? This
depends on your schedule, the fare, the
convenience of the flights and the transfer
service to and from the hotel in Williamsburg.
Your travel agent can sort out the best flights
at the most convenient times and lowest
fares. If there are advance purchase fares

they probably require reservations being made
and tickets purchased by a specified time.
Expect there to be penalties if you change or
cancel. Be sure and ask what these are. Many
special fares require a Saturday stay over.
Our meeting should meet this qualification.

You will find the following transfer infor-
mation helpful and may be the basis of select-
ing one airport over another.

Richmond has the most service and is
about 48 miles from Williamsburg. There is
limousine service (Groome) that departs ev-
ery hour and half hour. The cost is \$21.00 for
one person, 2 or more persons \$14.00 each.
The drive to Williamsburg is 45 minutes to an
hour. Groome will be there for each flight.
Return transfers can be arranged with a toll
free (Virginia only) phone call to Groome at
1-800-552-7911. Call the day before. Cab
fare is in the \$75-\$80 range and can take up
to 5, depending upon baggage.

Newport News/Williamsburg Airport is
the closest at only 23 miles from Williamsburg
and takes about 30 minutes. USAir is the
dominate airline in and out of the airport, and
most service is via connections at another
major city. The transfer shuttle service is V. I.
P. & Celebrity Limousine (one company).
They operate vans. The cost is \$20 per
person each way regardless of the number.
This shuttle operates from 7:30 am to 7:30
p.m. Outside of these hours transfers are by
chauffeured automobile at \$45 flat for up to
4 persons. Advance reservations are required
as the operator is not on site. Call (804) 220-
1616. V. I. P & Celebrity meet passengers
as they deplane. Return transfers are ar-
ranged by calling the same number.

Norfolk is the third airport serving
Williamsburg. It is 43 miles away and takes
about 45 minutes driving time. Most of the
service into Norfolk Airport will require a
connection. There is transfer service (cars
and vans) from the Norfolk Airport that will
take you to the hotel in Williamsburg. The
company is Norfolk Airport Shuttle and the
fare is \$21 per person each way. Norfolk
Airport Shuttle is located right outside the
baggage claim area of the airport with sched-
ules every hour and half hour 24 hours a day.
Return transfers? Call (804) 877-9477 the
day before. Taxi fare with Yellow Cab is about
\$75. for up to 5 passengers.

Rental cars: Should you desire to rent,
cars are available at all of these airports. This
should be done in advance. If you wait until
you arrive, a car may not be available or the
selection of types limited. Make your rental
car reservation when you make your airline
reservation. Unless you plan to arrive
Williamsburg in advance of the meeting, or
stay over, you really won't need a car. A quick
look at the program and schedule will show
the activities are such a car is unnecessary.
Compare costs versus required limousines.

WFS MEMBER PROFILE:

Mary Wingfield Harris



Mary Harris

How does a shy girl from Richmond adapt to living in another location? Mary Harris will never know because she has never lived anywhere else.

The youngest child of Harvey Ninde Wingfield and Anne Ferrell Ratcliffe's five children, our profile this issue is Mary Virginia Harris born in Richmond April 7, 1918. Her father was employed all of his working life by the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad. Mary had two brothers and two sisters. The family had lived in Marl Ridge, and was there one of her sisters was born. The family moved into Richmond before Mary was born.

As a youngster she recalls using passes on the railroad. She and her mother would take the 3 hour train trip to Washington to see the government office buildings, Capital, Smithsonian, the White House and the Washington Zoo.

She attended grade and high school in Richmond and then a business training school there. Jobs were scarce but the school would help with placement. She studied bookkeeping and secretarial subjects. Perhaps it was luck, but her first job lasted seven years, as often firms felt the hard times of the depression and many closed their offices.

Mary was in her late teens when she made a trip to Yellowstone. At one point on the visit they played state songs for the tourists, and she made the mistake of calling out "Virginia." They played "Carry me back to Old Virginia" and Mary got homesick. It was at this time she decided that she would be cautious about marrying a man only to be taken away from Richmond. With World War II on she viewed service men with skepticism, as they might whisk this shy girl away to a strange city or even worse, leave her and fail to come back at all. It wasn't until after the war that she married.

In 1947 a friend of Mary's arranged a blind date with the two couples double dating and taking in the Ice follies in Richmond.

Ironically both girls later married the boys from that date. For Mary and her date there was immediate chemistry and the early attraction soon developed into serious love with her future husband, Robert Charles Harris. Within a few months Mary and Bob were married and off on a honeymoon in New York City.

Bob was from Joliet, Illinois and had decided to settle in Richmond. He had no family connections in Joliet, so there was no chance they would leave Richmond. He was a gentle person, well liked and an avid sports fan. He would often have one football game on TV and another on a radio beside his chair. Bob died in 1985 after 38 years of marriage. "A good marriage," says Mary.

The marriage produced four children, they are Mary Anne, Ratcliffe Wingfield, Charles Edward and Judith Roberta. All except Charles are married and have children of their own. In fact Mary is a grandmother four times. Her children; Mary Ann has a son, Mark Warren Taylor age 13. Ratcliffe has two daughters, Mary Clayton age 9 and Elizabeth Tucker age 5. Her latest grandchild is the daughter of Judith who was born in November 1992. She is Elissa Louise Kruse. Charles Edward "Charlie" is a Down's Syndrome victim and works at the University of Richmond during the regular term. He is friendly and well known in Richmond where many people recognize and speak to him.

Mary's employment took second place to her children, and her offspring came in rapid succession between 1947 and 1958 causing gaps in her employment record. Finally job stability returned as the children became older and there were less family responsibility distractions. Mary spent 17 years with one firm, Johnson and Higgins of Virginia (insurance brokers), retiring in 1983. Although she liked bookkeeping best, she could not always obtain this duty and thus settled with more mundane secretarial work. Indeed she must have had the necessary aptitude, as upon retirement, she had advanced to assistant secretary and assistant treasurer for Johnson and Higgins. The company experienced explosive growth during the time Mary was there. It grew from seven employees to seventy at the time she retired.

Newsletter readers may recall, Nancy Vaughn won the 1991 photo contest (photo of the oldest photograph of a Wingfield) with a daguerreotype taken of Cynthia Hudson Wingfield who was born in 1797. Nancy Vaughn is Mary's sister and the subject of the winning photograph was their great grandmother. Nancy was the more avid genealogist in the family so Mary benefits with hand me down research. Nancy had worked closely with Dr. Bill Wingfield, co-founder of the WFS and chairman emeritus. Another grandmother was the subject of an article in the

Winter, 1993 newsletter. This was Caroline Letitia Brown Wingfield, entitled "Darling Carrie."

Mary proudly admits to being a rock hound and has samples of her collection in strategic locations around her house. She intends, someday to catalogue them all. She visited a diamond mine in Arkansas (did not find any samples), searched for semi-precious stones in the mountains of North Carolina, rocks at the Grand Canyon and Canada. Friends and relatives bring her samples from all over the world. Her niece Lee Britton (WFS member) has brought stones from India and the Matterhorn in the Alps and even Tunisia. She carries a colorful pebble found near the Grand Canyon in her change purse. While paying her bill at a Richmond store recently, the pebble dropped out with some coins. She offered the change to the clerk who looked at her hand, saw the pebble on top and replied, "we don't take rocks."

Other interests are swimming (she didn't learn until she retired), reading, knitting and crocheting. After retirement she embarked on a project to decipher the diary of her grandfather, Henry Wyatt Wingfield a captain in the Confederate army. He made daily diary entries and compiled each volume by the year. Mary inherited one volume, for the year 1864. It abruptly stops when he was captured in September, 1864. She lent her original for transcribing to the Virginia State Library and Fredericksburg National Park Service. Mary spent several months on the project and now has full transcripts of that volume. Lynn Wingfield of Marl Ridge has the other volumes and they too have been transcribed.

It has been 10 years since retirement and Mary still returns to the old workplace and has lunch with some of the girls.

Mary is very family oriented and her sisters and children get together on Christmas and Thanksgiving, often at the home of Mary's son Ratcliffe in Richmond. Of course she enjoys baby-sitting her grandchildren, loves to hike, but as the children left home she has no one left to hike with.

She has two cats, Ed and Bipsie. They are Tabbies and look much alike.

Mary is a Founding member of the WFS. That means she was in attendance at the organizational meeting in Ashland, Virginia in 1987. She has not missed a meeting since and was on both WFS trips to England. She adds that many WFS meetings have been in or near place she always wanted to visit. Mary loved Arizona so she could gaze over the Grand Canyon. In Atlanta she visited Emory University to see an exhibit of ancient Roman art done in various forms of stone. Reno was an exciting western adventure.

Expect to see Mary Harris at the meeting in Williamsburg.

Carter's Grove and Martin's Hundred a lost Virginia Settlement

The ship "Gift of God" sailed from England with approximately 200 settlers, docking at Jamestown in April, 1619 to establish a new colony to be known as Martin's Hundred. This was just 12 years after Jamestown was founded. But their dreams of the new colony were shattered 3 years later on March 22, 1622 by an Indian massacre and soon thereafter the settlement disappeared.

They called it Wolstenholme Towne the headquarters of the Martin's Hundred plantation. Wolstenholme Towne is the earliest planned town in British America. The Martin's Hundred plantation was named for one of its London shareholders, Richard Martin.

Early colonists to Virginia believe that just beyond them awaited the riches of the Orient, thought to be just a 10 day march away or easily accessible by ship. The earliest maps showed Martin's Hundred settlers could sail up the James River to China.

The reality was that after the Virginia Company of London staked its fortune on Jamestown in 1607, most of the planters were lucky to just survive, let alone show a profit. So in 1616, when dividends from the company's original "Incorporation" came due, all the enterprise had to offer was more land. This created additional plantation sites such as Martin's Hundred. The "Hundred" meant a tract big enough to sustain a hundred families - Martin's Hundred was allotted at least 21,500 acres, with an initial population of 200 in 1619.

Between 1619 and 1621 some 3,560 people left England to join the colony. Within these three years, seven out of ten perished. The beginning of the end came on March 22, 1622. Relations with the Indians had become so cordial they would come unarmed into the settler's houses. On the fateful day, suddenly the unarmed Indians seized the colonist's own tools and weapons and barbarously murdered, not sparing man, woman or child, on a rampage that included burning and destroying the buildings. The attack was led by warrior chief Opechcanough. Jamestown had been alerted by an Indian informant and therefore on guard and thus were able to foil the planned attack on their settlement. About 58 settlers at Martin's Hundred were killed and most of the homes destroyed.

When news of the massacre reached London, 150 more settlers and provision sailed for Virginia but the town was never rebuilt and the colony faltered and failed.

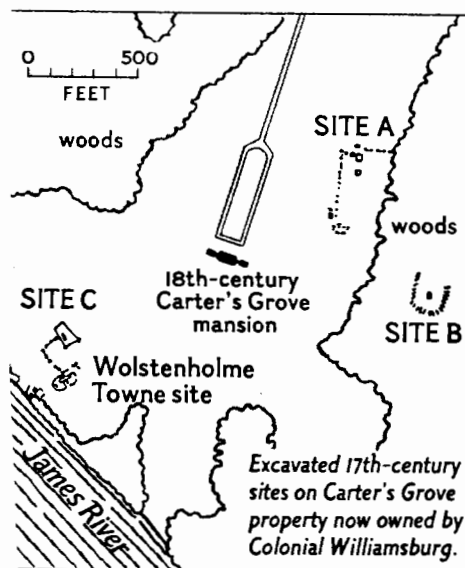
The Martin's Hundred settlement was populated by a larger number than landed in Jamestown twelve years earlier. Jamestown survived, Martin's Hundred did not.

The name as well as the site was destined for obscurity. Martin's Hundred was corrupted to Merchant's Hundred, and then finally succeeded with a much more enduring Virginia Plantation name, Carter's Grove.

For close to 350 years the remains of Wolstenholme Towne and Martin's Hundred would lie buried and forgotten - until archaeologist stumbled upon them by accident. Now Martin's Hundred is back on the map.

The story is fascinating. The Carter mansion was built on the estate once owned by Robert "King" Carter with original holdings of 300,000 acres. The mansion was built in the early 1750's, by Carter's grandson and is furnished in colonial revival style with antiques, period reproductions, some modern and a collection of decorative art. It is considered one of the most perfect examples of Georgian architecture in America.

In 1969, the 18th century Carter's Grove mansion and its more than 500 surrounding acres were deeded to the Colonial



Site plan, Carter's Grove

Williamsburg Foundation. Archaeologists were assigned the task of exploration of these 500 acres in search of clues to help recreate the mansion's 18th century environment. 500 acres was a lot of territory of which about half had been plowed for centuries. The rest was wooded gullies and marshland. The survey team dug hundreds of test holes looking for even the smallest traces of past occupation; a nail, a scrap of brick, a potsherd - anything that would say "somebody did something here!" And found it they did! Thousands of artifacts, including many graves, unearthed at three sites. They found postholes marking the place of the first planned town in America, Wolstenholme, the seat of the settlement.

Ivor Noel Hume, retired archaeologist for Colonial Williamsburg Foundation tells the story of the doomed settlers - and the myste-

rious artifacts they left behind. Hume explains, "Archaeology is a detective story, so we present our evidence in the form of clues. We show the visitor how we used these clues and how we arrived at our conclusions." This can all be seen in a museum opened in June, 1991 near the Carter's Grove mansion about 8 miles from Williamsburg.

It was in the drawing room at Carter's Grove that George Washington proposed to Mary Cary - and she refused him. The tale is told that years later Mary Cary watched the triumphant Continental Army enter Williamsburg after the Yorktown surrender. When she beheld her rejected suitor overwhelmed in glory, she was overcome with chagrin and fainted in her husband's arms. In the same drawing room, Thomas Jefferson offered his hand to the "fair Belinda," Rebecca Burwell. He too was rejected.

To see in more detail this fascinating supplement to colonial American history, members of the WFS can visit Carter's Grove on Saturday afternoon, May 15th in connection with the annual meeting in Williamsburg. The trip allows one to visit Carter's Grove Plantation, the site of Wolstenholme Towne, Martin's Hundred and the museum. Only one bus will make the trip immediately after lunch from Williamsburg Lodge. The most that can be accommodated is 45. See the Saturday Activities schedule for details and prices.

If you have registered for the meeting but did not sign up for this tour, send your check at once to: Wingfield Family Society, 301 Belleview Blvd., Belleair, FL 34616.

Nominations are still open for new WFS directors

The WFS will elect 4 new directors to a 3 year term at the meeting in Williamsburg, on May 14. This is one of the first orders of business on Friday. All members are eligible to make nominations of another member (or themselves).

Should you want to nominate someone, first find out if they will serve and be able to attend the annual meetings. The regular board meeting is held once a year in connection with the annual meeting.

Vice President Dale Wingfield Ruf is handling the nomination activity. Nominations in before March 31st will allow a picture and resume to be included in the newsletter that will come out immediately prior to the meeting.

Nominations after that can be made from the floor, but again only if the proposed nominee agrees to serve.

Send your nominations to:

Dale Wingfield Ruf
WFS Vice President
1401 Kersey Lane,
Rockville, MD 20877.

Do it today!

From Page 9 - Restored

gardens of the colonial town. Mr. Rockefeller and his family contributed \$79,000,000 over a period of 41 years for this miracle restoration. (Ed. Note: I remind you these were 1926-67 dollars.) "That the future may learn from the past" is the theme of Colonial Williamsburg, a restoration without equal.

Protected by a verdant green belt, the 130 acre historic area today includes 85 restored buildings of colonial date, 49 major buildings, plus many smaller ones that have been reconstructed into a city a mile long and nearly a half mile wide. A craft program that began with a handful of small shops in 1939 now represents 30 crafts. The familiar silver-smith, weaver, printer, bookmaker, and blacksmith still go about their daily business, but so do many others new to the Williamsburg scene - to mention a few are harnessmaker, gunsmiths and caster, wigmaker, bookbinder flax breaker, shingle and cabinetmaker

Pedestrians dressed in 18th century attire compliment the historic buildings on Duke of Gloucester Street. The craftsmen form the costumed colonial militia. Along with a fife and drum corps, the company drills twice a week at Market Square from mid-March to mid-October.

The famous William and Mary College is positioned at the west end of Colonial Williamsburg. April 8th is the 300th anniversary for William and Mary and on that date in 1693 King William III and Queen Mary II granted it's charter. It is the second oldest college after Harvard and the anniversary marks celebrations for the entire year. Some of the nation's oldest leaders were educated there. Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, and John Marshall. Now William and Mary is a university with 23 departments and more than 7,000 students.

How close is the Patrick Henry Inn to the restored section. It virtually touches the eastern edge of the village. If you have not visited Williamsburg before, you must spend some time there.

Why not plan an extra day?

From Page 9 - Jamestown revisited

the strong possibility of Smith's biased and prejudiced reporting of the facts.

Futile attempts have been made to get the Jamestown attractions and other historians to at least examine the other side. Frankly we had little ammunition, only rhetoric.

Now Jocelyn Wingfield, WFS historian from London, England has written a biography on Edward-Maria Wingfield that is currently being printed, called "Virginia's True Founder: Edward-Maria Wingfield & his times, 1550-ca. 1614." It is reviewed on page 10 in this newsletter.

It is no accident this book is being

published at this time, to be released at the Jamestown meeting. It is the pivotal project to point out the inaccuracies and misconceptions of accepted history. It is factual, well researched and not sugar coated. Jocelyn's talk will give an insight into the book with some facts that bear out the John Smith distortion when speaking to the WFS on Friday night.

The WFS objective is to get this book into libraries and into the hands of historians, scholars and the media, with a selective, effective distribution. It will also be available for members to purchase at the meeting immediately after Jocelyn's talk or later via mail. Those at the meeting can get their copy autographed by the author.

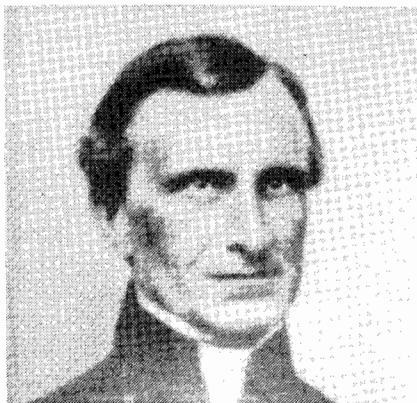
The 7th annual WFS meeting was timed to coincide with the printing of Jocelyn's book, the annual Jamestown celebration commemorating the 1607 landing and coincidentally with the 300th Anniversary of the founding of William and Mary College.

The church at Jamestown has been reserved the morning of May 15 for our private ceremonies.

Wingfields in History

The Bishop and the Reverend from Portsmouth, VA

"Beast" Butler prowled the streets of Portsmouth, Virginia during and after the American Civil War. This Civil War version of



Rev. John Henry Wingfield

a town bully was the Union General in charge of occupied Portsmouth. When he appeared to inspect local homes, household items disappeared. Also called "spoon" Butler, the light fingered general received his just deserts - if not the dessert spoons - when he arrived to inspect 315 Court Street, then the home of the Porter family. After Butler purloined the family's silverware, a spunky Porter lady tripped him, the general rolled downstairs, silver spoons bouncing out of his uniform pockets all the way.

This infamous General Butler caused a

From Page 9 - To think about

Wingfield progenitors can be fascinating and is good braggin' material.

3. Interesting events in connection with the meetings. The Atlanta meeting visited Washington, GA and its scores of pre-Civil war ante-bellum homes. The Arizona reunion took two motorcoaches to a real working cattle ranch in middle of 40,000 acres and experienced a barbecue like none other. In Nevada the WFS scraped open the history book for a look at one of the the state's most interesting pioneers, George Wingfield. Those on bus number 1 will never forget the experience outside of Charlottesville, VA when the bus slipped off the dirt road and was stuck for a couple of hours in front of a Wingfield early home. The hilarious tales that came out of that experience are now legend in the WFS. And no doubt there are other reasons.

Certainly this upcoming meeting in Williamsburg will be unique and packed with activities and cherished memories. Advance registrations are pouring in.

Never been to a WFS annual meeting? Maybe you are missing something.

problem for yet another Portsmouth resident, the Reverend John Henry Duchacet Wingfield the assistant rector of Trinity Episcopal Church at Court and High Streets.

In July 1858, he first became assistant to his father at Trinity Church, left for a few years but returned to Trinity in 1866 to 1868. It was at this period, during the occupation by Union troops that his defiance caused his arrest and a bizarre punishment. (His father, Rev. John Henry Wingfield was rector at Trinity and had been since 1821, and would remain so until his death in 1871 a tenure of some fifty years.)

Reverend John Henry Duchacet Wingfield was one of the five residents that refused to sign an oath of allegiance to the U. S. after the Civil War for which the penalty was not only personal punishment but possible confiscation and sale of home and possessions.

Reverend Wingfield was forbidden by military order to officiate at any church, so he began to worship at a parish church in nearby Norfolk, where its rector had taken the oath. It was here the Rev. Wingfield "defiantly" raised his head during the Prayer for the President of the United States. He was arrested, thrown in jail without a hearing and sentenced without a trial, to a chain gang to sweep the dirt and cobblestone streets of Norfolk for three months. (Later accounts say he swept the streets of Portsmouth, but the

See Page 16 - History

From Page 15 - History

records show it was Norfolk, which adjoins Portsmouth at the Elizabeth River.) He was required to wear the garb of a criminal. A public outcry caused General Butler to lift the sentence after a month. He was hounded and eventually coerced into signing the oath.

In the late 1860s Portsmouth, like other Southern cities, was suffering the privations of Reconstruction and hardships of discipline imposed by the Union occupation forces. During the Civil War and thereafter clergymen were forced to insert a prayer for President Lincoln in the liturgy or else face retaliation on their communities. Both Rev. Wingfield and his father shared the same sentiments about the Federal occupiers of Portsmouth but the son was more vehement.

In 1868 Rev. J. H. D. Wingfield became rector of St. Paul's Church, Petersburg, Virginia. He founded St. Paul's School for Young Ladies in 1871 and at the same time filled a professorship. He also started a school for the poor in Petersburg.

On the 2nd of December 1874 the Rev. J. H. D. Wingfield was consecrated as missionary bishop of Northern California. Besides the degree of D. D. conferred upon him earlier by his alma mater, he was awarded that of LL.D. by William and Mary College and that of D. C. L. from St. Augustine's College, California. In 1888 was elected a fellow of the Royal Geographic Society of London, England. His accomplishments are indeed long and impressive, before and after his appointment as Bishop in California.

John Henry Ducachet Wingfield was born in Portsmouth, Virginia on September 24th, 1833. At the age of thirteen he entered St. Timothy's College, Maryland, where he graduated in 1850. Joining the senior class of William and Mary. In 1855 he entered the Theological Seminary of Virginia for a year before moving to Arkansas accepting the office of principal of Ashley Institute at Little Rock. He was ordained a priest in 1858 and became assistance rector to his father of Trinity Church in Portsmouth.

Bishop Wingfield married three times. His first wife was Mary I. Chandler who died young. He then married Elizabeth Dallam Lee and from this marriage had three children, Henry, Paul and Mary. Elizabeth died in 1872. His third wife was Mrs. Annie Garland. There were no children by this marriage.

Bishop Wingfield was a man of marked executive ability, with unusual powers of imparting knowledge. He led a laborious life, and his services have met with the recognition so well deserved. He had received calls from forty parishes and had four bishoprics placed at his disposal. He died in Benicia, California on July 27, 1898.

This historical review would be incom-

plete without some further information about an equally dedicated and reverend man, Bishop Wingfield's father, Rev. John Henry Wingfield. His story while interlocking at one point in this review, deserves to be told on its own merits. Men it seems are born into circumstances into which they can excel. Rev. John Henry Wingfield fits this category as does his son. He was b. 1821 Hanover, Virginia, the son of William and Eliza (Davis) Wingfield of Hanover, County. This William Wingfield was the son of John Wingfield of "Walnut Shade," Hanover County and grandson of John Wingfield and Mary Hudson. Rev. Wingfield's mother, Eliza Davis, was the daughter of Henry Davis also of Hanover County, and a sister of Rhoda Davis, who married Thomas Wingfield, the brother of William Wingfield and son of John Wingfield from whom he inherited "Marl Ridge" in Hanover County. The Reverend John Henry Wingfield married Elizabeth Swapson Whitehead of Norfolk, Virginia fathering eight children, including Bishop J. H. D. Wingfield. He married a second time to Mrs. Emily Mason Boykin.

John Henry Wingfield took over the Trinity Church in Portsmouth in 1821 after serving briefly in Halifax County, Virginia. At that time the rectorship had been vacant since 1808 and Rev. Wingfield is given credit for reviving the church. "In the troublous times following the Revolution there was little growth and when the Rev. John H. Wingfield took over the church there were but eight or ten communicants. His faithful ministry of fifty years left its indelible impression on the church," according to an article in the Portsmouth Star (May 24, 1902).

Trinity Church, its graveyard dotted with tombstones dating back to the American Revolution, entered the Civil War as a prosperous growing congregation. By the end of the war in 1865, Portsmouth had been occupied by federal troops for four years. Trinity Church had been closed as a house of worship and converted to a Union military hospital during the war. Church pews were dismantled for hospital beds and many church furnishings were lost, destroyed or abused.

At the time his son was arrested and shamelessly sentenced to sweep the streets, Rev. Wingfield wrote, "During the late Civil War strife (the church) was shamefully and sacrilegiously profaned.....seized and abused by a heartless and wicked authority with whom might alone gives right." All churches in Portsmouth and Norfolk had been placed under control of U. S. provost marshals who governed activities of the ministers and congregations.

After the war the closed Trinity Church again became a church and the uphill struggle toward normalcy began. In a gesture of sentiment Rev. Wingfield contributed a window

memorializing Confederate veterans.

A letter dated April 14, 1868 by one of the church members described the window and the reaction of occupation officials. "Sunday, we were all surprised to see a magnificent memorial window in the middle south wall. It represents Virginia weeping for her sons. A female figure is leaning on a monument that was inscribed to the memory of ten Virginians (all listed by name) that had died between 1861 and 1865."

Union officers objected immediately to the inscriptions. Bowing to authority, Rev. Wingfield had a black cloth placed over the inscription. This action caused "Rebel" blood pressures to rise. A young ex-Confederate soldier removed the cloth. The controversy grew until church officials received notice that an order from the Secretary of the Navy had threatened to close down the Navy Yard in Norfolk unless the window was immediately removed.

The threat of unemployment of a thousand or more shipyard workers, plus a hint that repairs to the Naval Hospital and a seawall might be deferred, achieved the desired results. The window was removed and a church member took the questioned pieces home for safekeeping.

In September 1870 the window was replaced in Trinity Church. But the dedication was altered to read, "Given through respect for patriotism of the dead and from sympathy with their bereaved friends by their old pastor in 1868."

Throughout an interval of 80 years the original memorial inscription remained in the safekeeping of the Riddick family. The crisis eased over time as the townspeople became absorbed in other events. Mrs. Susan Riddick was the great-granddaughter of Rev. Wingfield. She discovered the original Confederate Memorial while sorting through some family belongings in about 1953 and presented the glass section to the Rev. Chauncey F. Minnick, rector of the church at that time. Plans were made to restore the original dedicatory wording and on January 31, 1954 the original inscription was replaced beneath the Confederate Widow. The Rev. Minnick, a northerner who came to Trinity Church from a pastorate in New York City, expressed significance in the memorial restoration, "It seems indeed fitting that the Confederate Memorial should be replaced by a Yankee after its removal had been caused by Yankees."

Reverend Wingfield died in 1871 and there are 3 stained glass windows directly behind the pulpit, one showing the Wingfield coat of arms, birth and death dates of Rev. Wingfield and another with an inscription "In Memory of The Reverend John Henry Wingfield D. D. For Fifty years the Rector of this Church."