

The New Kent Historical Society Newsletter

New Kent County Jail

June 2011

Since the new newsletter will be mainly delivered by email, the opportunity to include color pictures has arisen. Accordingly we intend to present in each issue a recent picture and brief history of historically interesting buildings in New Kent County. The May newsletter features Good Hope Baptist Church on Good Hope Road in Lanexa and Chestnut Hill, the oldest wood building in the county.



The photo above shows the third building used by the congregation of Good Hope Baptist Church. The first was a log schoolhouse. The second was a one-room sanctuary built in 1887 by George Singley and members of the congregation. The above building was a school, retired by the County in 1927 and purchased for \$200 in 1937 after the previous sanctuary had burned. The concrete block addition was built in 1963. Regular services were discontinued and the property has been maintained by a Memorial Association. The building was again used as a school in 1995-96. It currently is home to the Good Hope Full Gospel Church. (These details were excerpted from a complete history of Good Hope by Miss Emma E. Stewart, long-time member and former clerk of Good Hope Baptist Church.)

A story from the [Alexandria Gazette](#) (March 24, 1855) on the Marriage of George and Martha Washington—Recently uncovered and provided by Pam Radwani

“The house in which Gen. Washington was married, was in New Kent County, Va., and known as the White House. It has been demolished, and a new edifice occupies its site.

A correspondent of the [Baltimore Patriot](#) writes:

“The White House as it now stands, on a slightly elevated bluff of the Pomankey (sic), is the conspicuous object of the country around. The site was selected with that controlling regard for the picturesque which is the characteristic of Eastern Virginia. But the building in its

exterior, is unpretending to plainness. A stranger is slow to realize that so rich in historic associations, this is also the mansion of a tract of 8000 acres, busy with 130 Negroes, and an annual yield in wheat alone of 11,000 bushels. Yet it is not by the exterior that a stranger is to judge of the Old Dominion. "Washington

married at 27. As the widow of John Parke Custis, Mrs. Washington was entitled to one-third of the estate, and 45 pounds sterling, the remaining two-thirds being divided between her two children, a son and daughter—the grandson George W. P. Custis, of Arlington is the present proprietor of the estate."..."

More on Descendents of Epaphroditus Howle: Nellie Barham's work reported by Pam Radwani

This information on the Howle line is shown as near the original presentation as possible. It contains details not present in a larger study of the Epaphroditus Howle line. Right now it is being made available as is except for a few corrections for spelling, grammar and consistency; a more complete version of the Epaphroditus Howle line will probably be available in the future.

1. Epaphroditus Howle (born 1686) married Anne in 1704.
2. Thomas Howle was born in 1707 and married Anne.
3. Thomas Howle was born May 5, 1728. Either he or his father was a colonial soldier in French and Indian War. (Bell 1, p. 193)

Epaphroditus was born March 5 1729/30 and died in ?1805.

Thomas (Parke) was born September 1, 1753 and died in ?1805.

Epaphroditus born February 13, 1756 (?married Mary Jones of Caroline Co. March 15, 1798

James was born February 26, 1759.

Nancey was born July 6, 1761.

Lewis was born Feb. 5, 1764.

Tabitha was born June 28, 1766.

Daniel was born April 20, 1769 (David in Boddie).

James was born July 17, 1734 and married Susannah.

Francis was born October 28, 1768, moved to Sussex, and married Pamela, daughter of Benjamine and Elizabeth Tyrus on May 19, 1786.

Thomas T.

James L.

Williamson was born in 1789.

Epaphroditus was born in 1801.

4. Lucy Howel (from St. Peter's)
Mary Ann was born May 27, 1782.

Thomas and Lucy Howel

Robert was born February 20, 1785.

Susannah was born April 17, 1787.

Rebecca was born April 27, 1790.
Elizabeth was born March 12, 1794.

(Ed: at this point the document's format changes.)

Thomas Parke Howle served in The Commander-In-Chief's Guard, married Ann Poindexter, sister of John Lewis Poindexter.

Thomas Pulaski died 1830 on the way to Charlottesville.
Parke Goodall (War of 1812 Lt., Norfolk)
Ann E.
William C. died ?April 20, 18—. .
Daniel P.
Jaquelin ?1796 –changed his name to Poindexter.

Lewis and Elizabeth Howle

Lucy Hunt and Epaphroditus were born Sept. 30, 1793.

Children of Thomas Parke and Ann Poindexter Howle:

Thomas Pulaski Howle married Margaret Gaskins Hobday, daughter of William Hobday of Princess Anne Co. on September 7, 1819.

Ann Lewis Howle was born March 9, 1823 and died November 8, 1892.

Ann E. Howle married Francis Marshall.

William C. Howle married Mary (Richardson?) in October 1823.

Elizabeth Susannah Richardson was born December 3, 1825.
John William was born November 30, 1826.
Susanna was born December 1828.
Jaquelin P. was born April 1830.
Mary Caroline was born November 13, 1832 and died July 1, 1904.
George W. was born c1833.
Issac (Henry Issac born c1835) died Nov. 24, 1866.
Hannah M. died April 25, 18—.

Jacquelin L. (originally Howle) Poindexter married Martha C. Apperson.

Mary C.
Matilda Anne was born in c1826.
Jaquelin L., Jr. was born in c1835.
M. E. was born in c1845.

Ann Lewis Howle (March 9, 1823) married Beverly Parke Crump, son of Beverly and Lucy Gregory Crump on November 1, 1842; she died November 8, 1892.

Lucy Gregory was born September 12, 1843 and died September 16, 1844.

Margaret Gaskins Hobday was born October 11, 1845 and died March 19, 1934.
Betsy Parke was born January 1, 1847 and died February 21, 1853.
Beverly Parke was born March 8, 1850 and died March 26, 1850.
Martha Banister was born March 4, 1851 and died March 20, 1935.
Mary Beverly (Lewis) was born February 4, 1854 and died January 19, 1914.
Beverly Parke, Jr. was born July 27, 1856 and died in 1896.
Ann Savage was born March 2, 1859 and died March 29, 1934.
James Moore was born June 11, 1864 and died September 1, 1934.

Elizabeth S. Howle married William P. Pomfrey (born 1816).

William Anderson Pomfrey was born February 23, 1843 and died August 23, 1925.
Martha Elizabeth Pomfrey (Betty) was born in c1849.
Mary Susan Pomfrey was born in 1850.
Pleasant Pomfrey died young.
Martha Anna Pomfrey was born March 26, 1858.
Sarah Frances Pomfrey was born January 14, 1861 and died August 7, 1934.
Ella Jane M. Pomfrey was born in 1863.
Pinkey Pomfrey was born in 1860.
Florence Lee Pomfrey died December 12, 1955.
George Oscar Pomfrey was born May 22, 1867.

John William Howle married Delia A. _____ (born c1829).

Mary Caroline Howle married Hezakiah Hardin, son of John and Mary Hardin.

George Washington was born September 2, 1857.
Joseph Henry was born December 20, 1858 and died in 1941.
Mary Elizabeth (Molly) was born May 9, 1860 and died in 1918.
John William was born April 17, 1863 and died 1934.
Martha Susan was born April 12, 1868.
Christopher Columbus was born December 25, 1877 (a nephew.)
Hezekiah
Sarah Jane was born October 13, 1866 and died in 1919.
William E. (Willie) was born in 1872 and died in 1947.
Ida

Matilda Anne Poindexter married Bartholomew Dandridge Christian.

Martha
Anne
Douglas
James Stamper

Frog in Your Throat

Medieval physicians believed that the secretions of a frog could cure a cough if they were coated on the throat of a patient. The frog was placed in the mouth of the sufferer and remained there until the Physician decided that the treatment was complete.



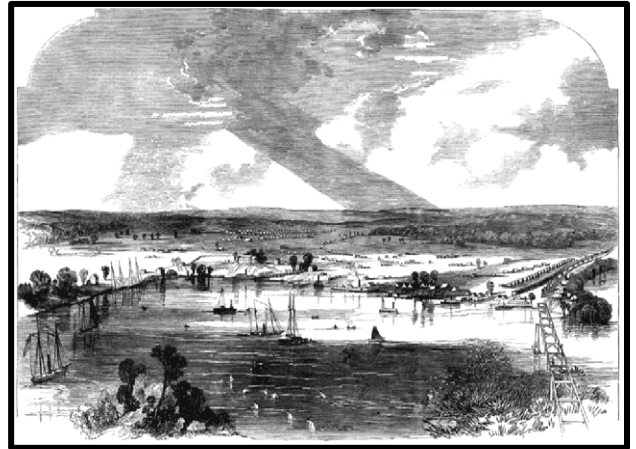
Personal Descriptions and Events of Free Blacks and Indians Living in New Kent County during the Civil War

The Southern Claims Commission was an organization of the executive branch of the United States government from 1865 – 1871, to apply for reimbursements for property losses due to U. S. Army confiscations during the war. Southerners from 12 states (West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas) filed claims with the Southern Claims Commission from 1871-1873 if they:

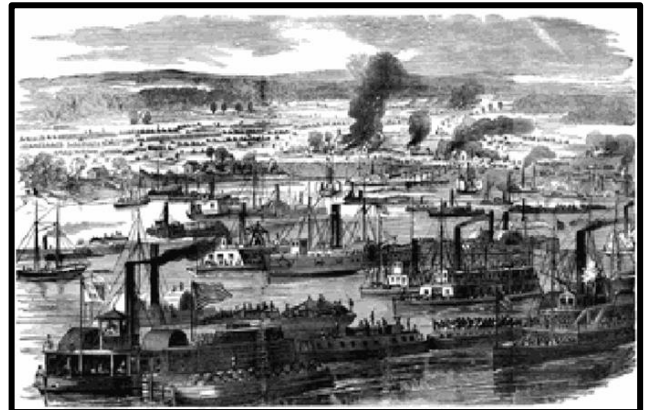
1. were loyal to the United States during the war
2. had supplies officially taken by or furnished to the U. S. during the war

Among the free blacks and Indians living in New Kent County who filed claims that were approved were:

William H. Brisby (Free Black and of Indian descent)
Joseph Brown (Free Black)
Warren Cumber (Free Black)
Beverly Dixon (Free Mulatto)
William Langston (Indian)
William Harvey Patterson (Free Mulatto)
Frank Sweat (Indian)



White House Landing, Pamunkey River, the Grand Depot of the Commissariat and Ordnance Department of the army before Richmond. White House Landing on the Pamunkey River was the Grand depot of General McClellan's army and from it there was a constant communications with Fortress Monroe and Washington.



Burning of the White House by Federal Troops Commanded by General McClellan

One of the above claimants, Williams H. Brisby was a blacksmith whose shop was located in Talleysville. In May of 1864 he suffered the loss of his property including his blacksmith shop which was torn down by General Sheridan's Forces. The torn down blacksmith shop, tools, iron and horses were taken to a distance of one half mile to White House.

The year after General McClellan's retreat from the peninsula four companies of Calvary troops from South Carolina were commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Shingler and attached to General Henry A. Wise's Brigade were camping in New Kent County. William Brisby was attached to this legion as a blacksmith, camping and moving with them wherever they went. He went with this legion to avoid being put to work on the Rebel fortifications. Colonel Shingler protected him by keeping him at work for his regiment.

William Brisby under the cover of darkness would drive his cart to Richmond at night and release Union prisoners. He helped over 100 Union prisoners (colored and white) escape by putting them in the back of his cart, covering them up and taking them to the Union lines.

-LaVonne Allen

Chestnut Hill-the Oldest Wooden Building in New Kent

Chestnut Hill was built in, or possibly before, 1720 making it the oldest wooden structure in the County. Nothing is known of its earliest occupants. William T. Apperson, his wife Catherine, whose wedding picture is shown below, and three daughters, Martha, Ada and Ellenora moved from King William into this house in the 1840s. The Appersons owned much of the property between there and the Pamunkey River. William died of typhoid in the early 1860s, and Catherine had to care for three small daughters and run the large horse farm. The girls said that during the War between the States they had to get permission to cross the northern soldiers' line so they could get water from a stream. Many Civil War and Revolutionary artifacts have been found around the house. At first, Chestnut Hill faced the Washington-Rochambeau route from Richmond to Williamsburg which passed on the opposite side from the current New Kent Highway; the front shown in these pictures was therefore originally the rear.



Wedding picture of Cathrine and William T. Apperson

Ed. note: Story excerpted from longer history of Chestnut Hill by Pam Radwani.

Catherine Apperson, remarried to a Mr. Hill, moved into his home on the Pamunkey, but remained sole owner of Chestnut Hill until she died. Martha Leah (Apperson) Slater then owned the property until her death. Dusty and Nell Crump renovated Chestnut Hill in 1983 and found that the original structure had hand-hewn beams and old-English-style wall bracing. Pam, who provided the information and "before" photo for this brief history, and Kent Radwani now make their home here, and in an addition which was built in 2005.



The Parkinson Family of New Kent

Thanks to Pam Radwani the New Kent Historical Society has access to a 30-page history and genealogy by A.C. Gordon of Covington, VA, of the Parkinson Family which may have been in New Kent since about 1690. Part of this family lived in, and owned thousands of acres of, New Kent for nearly 200 years. A scanned PDF file of this document will be made available for download on the New Kent Historical Society web site during the months of June and July. Excerpts from this document will be presented in this issue of the Newsletter. Except where indicated by "ed." these excerpts have been copied as closely as possible from the original manuscript and contain inconsistent punctuation and writing style apparently for brevity. The numbers on the left are generation numbers.

- (3) Joseph Parkinson born in New Kent county November 11, 1769, died December 7, 1826, married in New Kent County March 12, 1803, Ellie Crump, born 1786, the daughter of Jesse and Lucy Crump, his wife. Lucy daughter of Robert Crump and Alice (Walker ?) his wife. Robert son of Joseph and Cassandra Crump born November 1, 1737 (St. Peter's register). They are all of New Kent County. Joseph Parkinson was the oldest son of Jacob and Eliza (Christian) Parkinson, educated in New Kent county and William and Mary college. He was County Surveyor for years and a compass, bought in London and used by him, is the property of his descendents, having also been used by his son James Fendall Parkinson and grandson William Christian Parkinson. Joseph Parkinson served in the War of 1812 in Captain Seaton Crump's company. The family Bible has the marriages and (ed.) some of the deaths, births having been destroyed. Issue:
- (4) Joseph Christian born circa 1805, died December 18, 1845, married January 25, 1852 Anne Elizabeth Quarles, born January 4, 1818 died October 11, 1896 in Richmond, Virginia, daughter of John and Ann Quarles.
- (4) Allen Parkinson to Mobile, Alabama. Took honors at Washington College.
- (4) James Fendall Parkinson born May 19, 1814, died September 6, 1880. Married twice
- (4) Walker Parkinson – to California
- (4) Mary Ann Parkinson, born ____died____married: 1st, Micajah Vaiden, 2nd Soane Mountcastle
- (4) Tabitha W. Parkinson, born 1815, died____ married Frank T. Isbell February 16, 1852.
- (4) Grief Parkinson born soon after his father's death, died_____.

Issue of Joseph C. (Christian ed.) and Ann E. Parkinson:

- (5) Ann Christian Parkinson, born April 19, 1843, married Andrew J. Andrews
- (5) James Fendall Parkinson was a Baptist minister.

Ed. This section of the document continues with sketch of the life of Rev. Parkinson referenced from a book Virginia Baptist Ministers by Rev. George B. Taylor. Rev. Parkinson became a minister after training to be a surveyor. He was pastor of Black Creek Church in Hanover and Hopewell Church in New

Kent. He died in 1880 and was buried on his property "Oak Spring" which is now the site of New Kent Airport. His footstone (but no headstone) is visible at his grave site. Headstones for his first wife, Hannah Dill Parkinson, who died in 1854 and his daughter, Christiana Dill Parkinson, who died in 1919 are present at the site.



A Note from the Editor of this Issue of the Newsletter

Pam Huffman Radwani, who singlehandedly produced the New Kent Historical Society Newsletter for years, is taking a well earned break. Even so, Pam provided most of the information in this issue will continue to provide information and/or actual articles. On the next issue LaVonne Allen, who is an expert on the history of African-Americans in New Kent, will join me in this editing and assembly job.

LaVonne and I invite the membership to contribute ideas and information for articles, articles, letters to the editor and requests for information to the Newsletter. Soon we hope to devote one page to letters to the editor and short requests for information. Please email to NKHSmal@verizon.net, and put "Editors" in the subject line.

Hawthorne Davis

From your Treasurer

Welcome New Members to NKHS!

LaVonne Allen, Dilman and Tracey Andrick, Hawthorne Davis, Carolyn Dooley, Janice Fisher, Sonny and Johanna Graves, Joanne Howard, Kenneth Mason, Catherine Pomfrey, M.A. Pomfrey, Camilla Tramuel, Judy Williams, and Barbara Winters (our newest Lifetime Member).

Thanks to continuing Members!

Gordon and Eleanor Ayres, Thomas Bailey, Lillian Blondek, Raymond and Jane Bowery, Farron Cowles, Ellen Garati, Sherry Graves, Lisa Guthrie, Marie Jennings, Robert Leiner, Eugene and Martha Major, Bill McClintock, Earl Mills, Thomas Mountcastle, Dallas Oslin, Temple and Mary Julia Pomfrey, David Ross, Robert and Kathy Stroube, Stran Trout, W.L. Webster, and Mary Elizabeth White.

Gratitude to Lifetime Members!

Lora Binns, Arlene Bradley, Mary Bryant, Mark Cahoon, Drexel Crump, John Crump, Nellie and Dusty Crump, Loretta Davis, Jean Epperson, George Fisher, Sr., Jay Fancisco, Shirley and Jimmy Francisco, Jere Malcom, J.M.H. Harris, F.W. Howard, Judith and Ben Lacy, Bruce Lange, Gertrude Lindsay, Robbie and Terri Lindsay, Martha Martin, Patricia Martin, Christine Mason, Lawrence Mauck, Jaqueline Pomeroy, Kent and Pam Radwaini, Mary Satterwhite, South Garden LLC., Camilla Tramuel, Barbara Winters, Betty Woodward, and Elizabeth Yeatts.

Thank you to Martha Martin for managing contacts with our local papers; and to LaVonne Allen and Hawthorne Davis for helping produce our newsletter.

New Kent Historical Society News

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From Your President

This is the first newsletter in several years that wasn't produced entirely by Pam Radwani. Pam has been a most faithful worker—going far beyond what anyone could expect—and all in addition to having a full-time job. Thank you, Pam.

Loretta Davis

From Your Vice President

The goal of the New Kent Historical Society is to push forward with genealogy and historical research concerning our unique New Kent heritage. The Society is passionate about uncovering our rich legacy. If you have an item of interest that you would like to contribute to this newsletter, feel free to contact us at the above address. Keep reading our newsletter to "find out" what we have already "found out" about New Kent County. Who knows, your family name may be the featured article in future newsletters.

Camilla Tramuel

Is This Your Last Newsletter?

If you have internet capability, this is the last newsletter that will be sent to you by US mail unless we hear from you in writing. Not only will sending it via email result in saving paper and postage, but the pictures will be in color.

This time the newsletter is being sent by both US mail and email. If you received only a paper copy, it means we don't have a valid email address for you, and we ask that you please inform us of that address so we can use it in the future.

Are You a Member?

In order to remain or become a member, receive the newsletter or other notices, please send your check to the address at the top of this page.

One-year membership	\$	15.00
Lifetime membership		200.00
Business sponsor		100.00-500.00

The Jail

A big thank you is due to Jackie Pomeroy who has been so faithful in being available for visitors at the Jail for many years.

Get Ready for a New Look

We encourage you to submit items/articles to be included in future newsletters. Would you like to see a column devoted to questions sent in by readers? Send us your comments and/or questions by e-mail or US mail.

We are also considering a "Letters to the Editor" column. Please send us your thoughts on this or any other ideas you have for improvements.

Names of Interest

There have been suggestions that we print information on the following: Davis,

C. Linwood Fisher, Alice Ware Fisher, Bailey, Converse, Knox, HigginsAllen, Blayton, Brown, Dungey, Jackson, Meekins, Patterson, Osbourne, David Walker, Elizabeth Harris, Lilly Richardson, Alexander Childress, Marshall Gathright, Edmund Allen, Wealthy Tucker, Elizabeth (Dabney?) Talley

Our Last Meeting

Following our March 27, 2011, meeting, we had a guided tour of St. Peter's Church, conducted by Stuart Burnett, Steve Von Hitritz and Steve Avent, three gentlemen who truly did an outstanding job. Even those of us who have attended services there learned something new. Refreshments were provided by ladies of the church.

Our Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be 2:30 PM, July 17, 2011, in the Parks & Rec Room in the building immediately west of the "Old 1930 NK High School" (18025 NK Highway). We are fortunate to have Stran Trout as our speaker. He plans to conduct a tour of the Old School which is undergoing renovation.

New Kent Men in the Military

Bryan "Sonny" W. Graves, Jr., has published a book:

New Kent Virginia - Men In Service – 1900-2010

The 77-page, hardbound book includes 401 men from New Kent who have served our country in the military. It can be ordered directly from Sonny at:

7729 Dunfield Place, A-3, Norfolk, VA 23505

757-423-1935 or bwg7729@cox.net

(\$24.50 includes postage)