

The New Kent Historical Society Newsletter

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This newsletter's featured historic church building is Olivet Church, which is located on Olivet Church Road about halfway between Providence Forge and Talleyville.



Olivet's congregation began in eastern Hanover County in 1776. About 1820 some of the members obtained use of St. Peter's Church, which had been vacant since about 1814 and had no active congregation. By 1823 the Presbyterians had repaired St. Peter's and obtained a pastor, Rev. Jonathan Stilliman from New England. Meanwhile the Episcopalians had gained strength, and an Episcopal congregation also formed at St. Peter's. The two groups shared St. Peter's, meeting on alternate Sundays until 1856, when the Presbyterian congregation of only eight members completed this classic building and began meeting at Olivet Presbyterian Church. Mainly due to the bad roads in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Olivet Church did not receive the continuous use it is deserved. In 1880 a Presbyterian minister and U.S. military agent, Col. Ebenezer Townsend built a chapel in Providence Forge to serve all denominations. By 1902 half of Olivet's regular services were held at the chapel, and by 1924 Olivet was holding most of its services there. In 1934 the chapel burned and a new Presbyterian church was built in Providence Forge, basically ending Olivet's run as an active church. Today the site is preserved by a memorial association which holds one service a year, on Christmas Eve. The cemetery is still in use, and the building is used for weddings. (information from Estelle Mountcastle)

Confederate Soldiers from New Kent

Later in this newsletter is a list, taken from the display in the old Court House, of the New Kent men who fought in the Civil War. Many of us will have relatives on this list. Following are two articles provided by our members on Civil War things.

The Pamunkey Heavy Artillery

The Civil War had just begun and many men from New Kent answered the call to volunteer for service. In May of 1861, brothers William Alfred Meredith, aged 22 and Winston Meredith (26) joined the army in Capt Ellett's (became Capt. A. J. Jones') Company, known as the Pamunkey Heavy Artillery, enrolled at Tunstalls, and mustered at West Point on May 21, 1861. Their brother Thomas stayed home to run the farm, with his sisters Mary and Ann. Their other sister, Emily, fraternal twin to Thomas, had married George M. Winn and moved to Bath County in 1858.

After a stint at Yorktown, the Pamunkey Artillery was emplaced in the permanent defenses of Richmond along the James River at Chaffins Bluff. For the next three years they basically sat back, trained, and occasionally fired their cannons. While battles swirled around Richmond, Fredericksburg, Washington, and Gettysburg, the Pamunkey Artillery waited. They may have taken part in some skirmishing, but accounts say they never met the enemy face to face.

Finally it was almost over in early April 1865, and Lee evacuated Petersburg and Richmond. All heavy artillery was spiked and abandoned. All of the artillery groups at Chaffins Bluff were marched out as infantry. Four days later on April 6, the evacuation was cut apart and a quarter of the Army of Northern Virginia became entrapped. The Battle of Sailor's Creek (also spelled Saylor's and Saylor's) ensued, resulting in the capture of this part of Lee's Army.

In a gallant, but hopeless stand, The Confederates put up a remarkable fight, centered on the "Chaffins Bluff Brigade" under Col. Crutchfield, who was mortally wounded. This battle was the first time in four years of being in the army that this group had engaged the enemy face to face. And it was the last major battle of the war. Winston and William were part of a group hastily put together upon the evacuation of Richmond, which included remnants of the artillerists from Chaffins Bluff, marines, sailors, clerks, and the like. Their group, having never fought in the trenches, stood out for the brightness of their uniforms, and their red artillery caps. Accounts say that they stood to their colors in the heat of the battle as if on parade, which surprised the officers due to this being their first engagement. On their right was the 18th Georgia and on their left the 10th and 19th Virginia Heavy

Artillery (fighting as infantry), and further to their left the sailors and Marines under Commodore Tucker. They faced the 37th Massachusetts and 121st New York.

The Confederate line formed on a hillside, and the Union light artillery on the opposite hillside fired on them for half an hour at nearly point blank range, the Confederates having no artillery with which to answer. They were ordered to lie down to avoid the shelling. Then the Union line charged across the swollen creek and up the side toward the brigade. The Confederates rose and fired a volley into the Union line, which broke. Then spontaneously the Confederates charged down the hill, pushing the surprised and broken Federal line back across the stream. The Federals regrouped quickly and by force of numbers, pushed the Confederates back in some of the bloodiest hand-to-hand combat of the war. Cut off by Union cavalry at their rear, the Confederates surrendered, group by group.

William was presumed killed on the battlefield, for there is no mention of him as a prisoner. He was likely buried where he fell. Winston was wounded (gunshot to the chest), captured, and taken to City Point Hospital near Hopewell. On April 18 he boarded the hospital Steamer State of Maine and was admitted the following day to Armory Square Hospital in Washington. He died April 20, the only added remarks on his record being "asthma" and "age 30, ward D." A letter was written to his commander, but his list of personal effects was zero. He was buried at what is now Arlington National Cemetery, and in 1901 was re-interred in the Confederate Section (grave 38).

It seems ironic that the brothers would sit out the entire war, then both be killed in the last significant southern offensive action in the last significant battle, then for one's body to be lost and one to be buried in the most prestigious cemetery in the nation. They were just ordinary farm boys caught up in a much larger drama.

--B. Meredith Winn, Jr.

Relic Hunting and Digging up History in New Kent

I started relic hunting about ten years ago, mainly for the exercise, but soon found out it wasn't just about the exercise, but the thrill of finding a coin that hasn't see the sunlight in two hundred years or a rifle butt plate that was on a flintlock that white settlers traded to the Indians.

New Kent county is rich in history, from early settlers to present day. From jewelry, coins, and tools to whiskey still parts. The relics are still there but fewer. Many of these relics are under new roads, construction or being eaten up by fertilizer and rust.

Most relic hunters will never find that pot of gold, but tracing back the history of the smallest relic is an interesting and worthwhile hobby. ---Dillman Andrek

Ed. Note: It is interesting that 19th century New Kent was newsworthy to Northern newspapers. Pam Radwani has provided some newspaper clippings which seem to say that it was. Thank you Pam

Alexandria Gazette

1869

There are eighteen colored members elected to the new Virginia Legislature. There are four in the Senate, from the counties of Goochland, Buckingham, Prince Edward and Portsmouth, and fourteen in the House. Alexandria elects one, Brunswick, Buckingham, Dinwiddie, Mecklenburg, New Kent, Norfolk and York one each. Chesterfield and Powhatan choose two, and Halifax and Petersburg two each. The two from Halifax are Conservatives; all the rest are radicals.

New York Herald

1868

Murders and Arson in New Kent County

On Saturday night Mrs. Stewart living in New Kent County, was murdered and the house burned, together with her farm manager, Mr. Baker. \$500.00 in gold was taken. Four houses have been burned in the same neighborhood. Forces are being sent there.

Pittsfield Sun

May 25, 1871

A violent tornado and hail storm passed over a belt of land a mile in width in New Kent County, Virginia. Trees and houses were blown down, and persons in the road were knocked senseless by hailstones, which fell in some places to the depth of nine inches. Crops are entirely destroyed. Four years ago a tornado passed over the same belt of land.

The Tornado four years before destroyed Austin Church which is the reason New Kent Chapel was built.

Cincinnati Commercial Tribune

February 16, 1870

Scene at the Hanging
of Gardner at New Kent, Virginia

The prisoner left the jail a few minutes before the appointed time, in custody of Sheriff Brooks and ten armed guards. His step was firm and his bearing cool. At first sight of the scaffold, however, he began to stagger, but it was only to step back and take a good long look at the means of his execution. He said

nothing, but walked on boldly and ascended the platform with a step as firm as a murderer ever treads.

Being asked if he had anything to say, he turned to the assembled negroes, who were laughing and carrying on as if witnessing a horse race or a circus and said in a solemn voice that he did not know whether he was going to heaven or hell, Before God he was innocent and his friends had deserted him.

A Negro woman cried out, "You is going to swing to hell," which caused an outburst of laughter from the crowd.

Gardner explained, "Yes, you laugh at poor me now, with those limbs tied, but the devils in hell are laughing at you."

He then turned to the Sheriff and said but one person knew he was innocent, and that was God. He was then shrouded in black, and the cap was drawn over his face. A Negro preacher uttered a few words of exhortation, and offered up a reverent pray for mercy. He then said, "Nobody had anything to do with this murder but Lewis Kennedy and me"

Another second, the drop fell, and the world of the murderer was launched into eternity.

Fascinating Book

Fischer, David Hackett

Albion's Seed

1989 Oxford University Press

This book explores how the differing cultures and religions of the original English settlers of this country have produced the cultures of New England, Virginia, the Delaware Valley and Appalachia. The thesis is that New England's Puritan middle class from East Anglia, Virginia's Anglican gentry from England's South and Southwest, the Delaware Valley's Quaker farmers and merchants from the Midlands and Appalachia's mainly Presbyterian poor from the England-Scotland border area defined the cultures and languages of these regions for centuries.

The section which relates to Virginia, particularly this part of Virginia, is detailed and interesting.

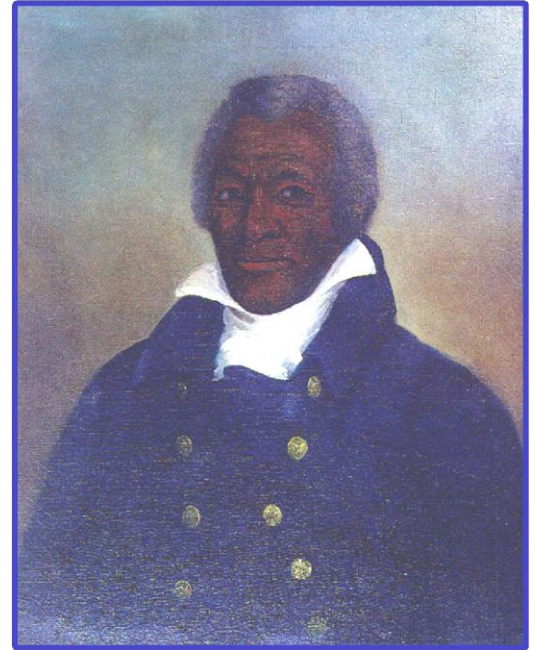
James Lafayette “A Mission of the most secret and important kind” From Slavery to Espionage to Freedom

James Lafayette was born in New Kent County, Virginia about 1748, and was the slave of William Armistead of New Kent County. William Armistead served in the American Revolution, and his slave James accompanied him during his service. James took his master’s cause as his own, contributed valiantly and bravely to the American military success at Yorktown, and eventually won his personal freedom to enjoy the fruits of that victory.

William Armistead, commissary of military supplies, was in Richmond during the summer of 1781, issuing supplies to Lafayette’s army. While in Richmond, Armistead learned about Lafayette’s need for spies. A spy, Lafayette insisted, needed to be intelligent, a good actor, cautious, and trustworthy. James, working as a servant or stock boy in Armistead’s office, met these criteria and was eager to volunteer, for, as James wrote later in a petition to the state legislature, he believed that this would offer him an opportunity to gain his own freedom. Armistead agreed to permit James to join Lafayette’s official household, either as a servant or a spy.

By midsummer of July 1781 Lafayette had accomplished a spy master’s dream: his spy James had infiltrated the enemy’s headquarters. Lafayette began to get information from James, who evidently was acting as a forager, moving through the British lines to bring food from the country for the tables at headquarters. James also carried written instructions to other spies and letters “from the Marquis into the Enemies lines, of the most secret and important kind; the possession of which if discovered on him would have most certainly have endangered his life.”

James, by August 1781 a familiar figure around the British headquarters, took precautions to allay any spying on the Americans. This new role improved his own cover and may have enabled him to evaluate British intentions more accurately based upon the kinds of information the British wanted him to obtain about American movements. For almost two months James played double agent, giving the British enough information to keep them satisfied but not enough to hurt the Americans. He continued to smuggle papers out of the British camp and thereby “kept open a channel of the most useful communications to the army of the state.”



James Lafayette

The Marquis de Lafayette gave slave James a document (below) in gratitude for his service as a spy during the siege at Yorktown. This certificate helped James to get his freedom:

This is to certify that the Bearer by the name of James has done Essential Services to me while I had the Honour to Command in this State. His Intelligences from the Enemy’s camp were industriously collected and most faithfully delivered. He properly acquitted himself with some important Commissions I gave him and Appears to me entitled to every reward his Situation can admit of. Done under my hand, Richmond, November 21st, 1784.

Marquis de Lafayette



James Lafayette

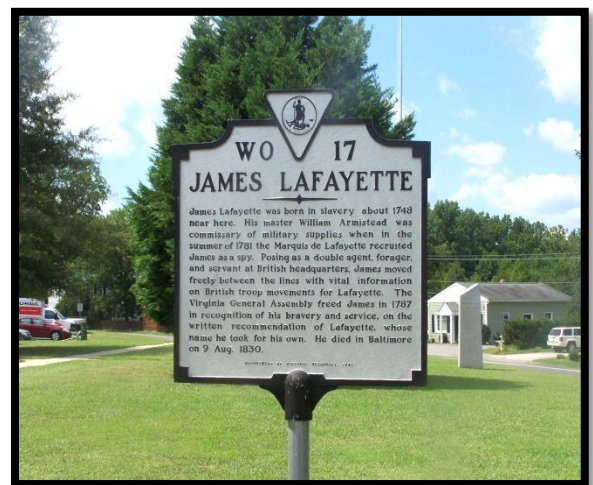


During the summer of 1781 the American army in Virginia, Commanded by the Marquis de Lafayette, and the British Army in the South, commanded by General Charles Cornwallis, sparred with each other until Cornwallis moved his forces to Yorktown. There, cut off from escape by sea by the Comte de Grasse and the French navy, and surrounded on land by the forces of Washington, Rochambeau, and Lafayette, Cornwallis and his army surrendered on the afternoon of October 19, 1781. James's career as a spy ended.

For the next two years James remained with his master as Armistead divided his time between supervising his plantation In New Kent County, attending the sessions of the House of Delegates and attempting to settle his revolutionary war accounts. Armistead's health began to decline and he reflected on the war and on the contributions that he and James had made to its successful conclusion. While Armistead had suffered financially, he at least had occupied a relatively safe position behind American lines, sitting in his office tending to paperwork and doling out supplies. James, in contrast, had risked his life daily to ascertain facts essential to the American victory at Yorktown. One misstep or bit of bad luck could have resulted in his being hanged by the British, or perhaps by the Americans had he been caught in a compromising circumstance by overzealous Virginia troops ignorant of his true loyalties. In 1786 Armistead, although ill and financially troubled, was at least a free man, while James, who had taken the greater risk, remained in bondage.

On November 30, 1786, a petition on behalf of James was presented, with Armistead's permission, to the General Assembly. A previous petition, presented in December 1784, had died in committee, but the new petition was accompanied by the treasured certificate from Lafayette. The House of Delegates referred the petition to its Committee on Propositions and Grievances. The House on December 21, 1786 ordered a bill drawn, and on Christmas Day the bill unanimously passed the House. On New Year's Day the Senate agreed, also unanimously; 1787 marked both a new year and a new life for James. On January 9, 1787 the Speaker of the House signed the bill and James was a free man. Upon gaining his freedom, he took as his Surname that of the Marquis de Lafayette.

James Lafayette's life as a free man is largely unrecorded, except in state land and personal property tax books, because in the first year of his freedom the court records of New Kent County were destroyed in one of several courthouse fires suffered by the county. James Lafayette and his family which included his wife and at least one son, acquired in 1816 tracts of land that joined the estate of William Armistead. One tract consisted of 10 acres and the second tract 30 acres. At the age of 70 and in declining health, James could no longer do manual labor to provide a living for himself. He applied for relief and a pension. The General Assembly approved his petition, and James Lafayette was allowed sixty dollars for his "present relief" and the sum of forty dollars annually for his pension. His pension and relief began in 1819 and twice every year, thereafter. James Lafayette died in Baltimore on August 9, 1830.





Slatersville

Situated on a knoll beside the old colonial Stage Road., this Greek Revival-style house was built around 1850 by Dr. Leonard Slater, a Confederate surgeon who is buried in a nearby family graveyard. The house was built on the site of an earlier, 18th century dwelling. It is a two story wood structure over an English basement, with a hipped copper roof, topped by a unique square belvedere and flanked by interior brick chimneys at each end of the house. The house is situated on 25 acres, which includes stables and pasture for the owner's horses. On the day after the Civil War battle at Brickhouse, in which 2200 Federal and 29 Confederates were killed, Slatersville was the site of a Civil War skirmish involving Gen. J. E. B. Stuart. This skirmish left the house damaged by cannon and small arms fire.



Something is always blooming at Slatersville. The rosemary of the formal herb garden sports a deep blue flower in the winter months. The knoll is a sea of exotic daylilies in early June and the first signs of spring in the county are the historic daffodils, which naturalize the three-acre yard.

Slatersville is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Stephen Miles, who, along with Pam Huffman, contributed to this article. The lower picture of Slatersville was made by Robert Crump in 1919. The Society plans to tour Slatersville as part of a meeting some time in 2012.

**Because of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War this Newsletter Includes the List of
New Kent's Confederate Soldiers From the 1909 Courthouse**

Aaron, Joseph B.	Bradley, Robert	Dandridge, B. C.	Hazelsood, John	Martin, F. D. – Sgt.
Adams, Richard	Bray, W. H.	Daniel, J. W.	Hazelwood, Peyton A.	Martin, Mortimer – Sgt.
Allen, A. F.	Bright, Robert A.	Daniel, R. A.	Hazelwood, Summerfeld	Martin, Parks
Allen, Thomas	Bright, Robert A.	Davis, J. A.	Heath, Jesse M. – Cpl.	Mason, Robert M.
Apperson, A. H.	Brumley, Geo. Lt. I	Davis, J. H. S.	Hewlett, A. D.	Masters, E. H.
Apperson, John C.	Brushwood, Geo, - Cpl.	Davis, Peter	Hicks, Andrew S.	Mayhue, John
Apperson, J. D.	Buelion, John H.	Davis, R. H.	Hicks, C. F.	McGuire, James
Apperson, Richard C.	Burbage, Armistead	Davis, W. B.	Hicks, M – Sgt.	McKenzie, James
Apperson, Robert C.	Burnett, John H.	Dixon, John R.	Hicks, Radcliffe	McKinney, R. W.
Apperson, Samuel H.	Burnett, Peyton	Dixon, R. L.	Hicks, W.	Meanley, j. p.
Apperson, W. A.	Burnett, W. A.	Dodson, W. C.	Hicks, William A. – Cpl.	Meridith, William A.
Ashlin, W. A.	Burnett, W. W.	Drake, James T.	Higgins, P.	Meridith, Winston– Cpl.
Atkinson, Henry A.	Burr, H. D.	Drake, William T.	Higgins, M. A.	Mills, A. J.
Atkinson, H. A. Jr.	Burr, John H.	Eames, James L. – Cpl.	Higgins, Mortimer	Mills, J. W.
Atkinson, J. D.	Butler, Thadeus J.	Eames, Lycurgos - Capt.	Hill, B. W.	Mills, W. A. – Cpl.
Atkinson, Oliver	Call, L.	Ellett, C.	Hill, George, W.	Mills, William P.
Atkinson, W. A.	Call, William T.	Ellett, Robt. C. – Capt.	Hill, J. A.	Minor, Edward – Sgt.
Atkinson, William E.	Cardines, J. J.	Ellett, Walter	Hill, John G.	Mitchell, George W.
Atkinson, W. F.	Carlton, J. W.	Ellett, T. J.	Hockaday, Daniel	Mitchell, James M.
Austin, Dandridge	Carmines, J. R.	Elliott, W. A.	Hockaday, James – Sgt.	Mitchell, John E.
Austin, John W.	Chandler, D. P. – Sgt.	Ellyson, A. B.	Hockaday, John R. - Sgt	Mitchell, John R. – Sgt.
Austin, L. D.	Chandler, O. M. – Sgt.	Ellyson, Deleware	Hockaday, Richard C.	Mitchell, William
Austin, Thomas W.	Chandler, Robert	Ellyson, L. G.	Hockaday, William O.	Mitchell, William A.
Bacon, Ferdinand	Chandler, T. L.	Ellyson, R. A.	Hockaday, Zackariah	Mitchell, William H.
Bailey, Ansolem, I.	Christian, A.	Ellyson, S. W.	Houchens, Andrew	Moore, John T.
Bailey, A. J.	Chritian, James - Capt.	Ellyson, T. H.	Howle, Isaac H.	Moore, Raleigh P.
Bailey, Robert D.	Christian, J. D.	Ellyson, Wm. P. – Cpl.	Hubbard, Benjamin	Moody, Thomas
Bailey, William W.	Christian, John H.	Eppes, Edward - Sgt.	Hubbard, John	Morgan, E. T.
Baker, Frank	Christian, Jones R.	Estes, J. W.	Hubbard, William	Morgan, William P.
Baker, Henry F.	Christian, Robert	Fanny, Robert	Huxter, Reuben	Mosley, B. W.
Baker, Robert	Christian, William	Farinholt, B. L. – Col.	Jarvis, W. C.	Mosley, R. D.
Baldwin, G. T.	Clarke, George W.	Farinholt, John L.	Jennings, A. R.	Nix, William
Ball, Herbert	Clarke, J. D.	Farinholt, William	Jennings, John	Odell, T. M. – Sgt.
Balman, Frances M.	Clarke, Robert D.	Fitzgerald, E. O.	Jennings, Major	Odell, John D.
Barham, Thomas	Clarke, W. L.	Foster, Josiah	Jennings, William T.	Parkinson, Joe W.
Barker, Anderson	Clarke, Walter P.	Frazier, R. E.	Jonhson, S. L.	Parkinson, John F.
Barker, Wm. N. – Cpl.	Clarke, Wm. A.	Gary, Ben F.	Jones, A. J. – Capt.	Parkinson, Jordon C.
Barnes, W. H.	Clarke, William R.	Gary, Daniel B. – Cpl.	Jones, Burwell, B.	Parr, J. L.
Batkins, George W.	Clopton, W. E. - Lt.	Gary, James F.	Jones, C. M. – Cpl.	Parrish, Bertram
Beadles, Andrew	Conner, J. R.	Gary, James Jr.	Jones, Charles R.	Parrish, Marcus
Beadles, John W.	Connelly, G.	Gary, Scofus	Jones, Daniel Wm. – Lt.	Patterson, Cornelius
Bennett, Christopher	Cook, William A. Jr.	Gary, S. W.	Jones, I. R.	Pearson, Charles G.
Bennett, Washington	Cook, Richard P. – Col.	Garnett, Alpheus H.	Jones, W. F. N. – Sgt.	Philbates, William
Bingley, James A.	Cooke, W. A.	Garnett, Anderson	Jones, William I.	Pierce, J.
Binns, Charles H.	Couch, I. W.	Garrett, John I.	Jones, William W.	Pippin, Richard
Binns, William E.	Couch, James. W.	Gibbs, W. S.	King, George Wilson	Poe, John Jr.
Blackburn, L. C.	Couch, J. Wesley	Gilliam, J. C.	Knewstep, Miles	Pollard, William
Blankenship, W. W.	Courtney, R. J.	Gilliam, Robert	Knewstep, William S.	Pomfrey, George M.
Blassenham, William	Crittenden, Robert	Gilliam, Thomas	Lacy, A. B.	Pomfrey, W. A.
Blayton, J. C.	Cross, William T.	Gilliam, Wert M.	Lacy, B. W.	Porter, James H.
Blayton, John	Crowder, Miles	Gilliam, William O.	Lacy, John C.	Powers, Benjamin
Blayton, William	Crump, David W.	Glazebrook, Joe	Lacy, Richmond T.	Powers, Byrd
Bond, Martin	Crump, E. M.	Goddin, James	Lacy, R. B.	Ratcliffe, William T.
Borough, J. W.	Crump, Fielding N.	Goddin, Sylvania	Lacy, T. A.	Richardson, Andrew P.
Boswell, J. W.	Crump, George W.	Goodman, Lemuel	Laureus, William	Richardson, Augustine
Boswell, Ned	Crump, H. F.	Green, C. P.	Lewis, Robert B.	Richardson, J. - Capt.
Boswell, W. F.	Crump, Henry C.	Gregory, Wm. T. – Surg.	Lewis, William A.	Richardson, John A.
Boswell, Walter	Crump, J. T.	Grubbs, W. H.	Lindsey, Curtis	Richardson, John P.
Boswell, William I.	Crump, Lem. Dr.	Gunn, J. M.	Lindsey, Edward J.	Richardson, Sylvester
Boswell, Wm. T. – Cpl.	Crump, Richard	Hagerty, E. R. – Ensign	Lindsey, Landy	Richardson, William N.
Bowis, Edward	Crump, William	Harden, Kiser	Lindsey, William F.	Robbins, Daniel
Bowis, Stanhope E.	Crump Winfield – Cpl.	Hardin, H.	Lipscomb, Egbert	Robins, James P.
Boyd, George G.	Crump, Zackariah T.	Harmon, Benjamin	Lipscomb, W. I.	Robins, William
Bradenham, James	Cumber, Benjamin	Harrison, Thos. R. – Dr.	Manning, Armestead R.	Robinson, W.
Bradenham, John R.	Cumber, Wm. N. Buglar	Hazelwood, George	Mantlo, William L.	Ross, William P.
Bradley, Pleasants	Dagenhart, S. C.	Hazelwood, James M.	Marston, W. W. – Surg.	Royster, James

Royster, Junius C.
 Royster, Lawrence
 Ruckles, L. L.
 Saunders, J. M. – Sgt.
 Saunders, Thos. – Capt.
 Savage, Southy L. – Sgt.
 Shackelford, Andrew J.
 Sherman, Henley
 Slater, John S.
 Slater, L. S. – Dr.
 Slater, Overton G.
 Slaughter, Joseph
 Smith, George W.
 Smith, R. G. – Lt.
 Smith, William M.
 Smithie, George N.
 Spencer, Gideon
 Spencer, J. D.
 Stamper, Henry – Lt.
 Stewart, R. E.
 Sullivan, John
 Sweeny, J.
 Sweeny, Stephen, B.
 Sweet, Patrick N.

Talley, R. W.
 Tate, John W.
 Taylor, Edward H.
 Taylor, J. T.
 Taylor, James F.
 Taylor, James R.
 Taylor, Oliver F.
 Taylor, R. S.
 Taylor, Sam F.
 Taylor, T. – Lt.
 Terrell, G. A.
 Terrell, Henry C.
 Terrell, L. B.
 Terrell, L. B.
 Terrell, R. A.
 Terrell, R. C.
 Terrell, Thomas H.
 Terrell, W. A.
 Thomas, Benj. A.
 Thompson, J. H.
 Timberlake, Albert
 Timberlake, B. N.
 Timberlake, Frank
 Timberlake, G. A. – Cpl.

Timberlake, Harmon
 Timberlake, J. B. – Lt.
 Timberlake, J. C. – Capt.
 Timberlake, J. W. – Cpl.
 Timberlake, John F.
 Timberlake, John M.
 Timberlake, R. L.
 Timberlake, Robert L.
 Timberlake, W. W.
 Trevillian, Charles B.
 Tunstall, Miles – Lt.
 Tunstall, Richard
 Tunstall, Thomas
 Turner, Edward
 Turner, Geo. W. – Sgt.
 Turner, Hezekiah
 Tyler, James S.
 Tyree, Alonzo – Cpl.
 Tyree, David
 Tyree, David A.
 Tyree, George W. – Cpl.
 Tyree, John
 Tyree, Richard T.
 Tyree, Spencer – Lt.

Tyree, W. F.
 Tyree, William T.
 Vaiden, Edward
 Vaiden, Galba
 Vaiden, N.
 Vaiden, John B.
 Vaiden, Melville – Capt.
 Vaiden, Micajah
 Vaiden, V.
 Vaughn, J. C.
 Vaughn, R. T.
 Vaughn, Wm. H. – Cpl.
 Wade, G. W.
 Wade, J. L.
 Walls, James W.
 Walls, Robert C.
 Waring, Thomas B.
 Waring, Wm. H. – Cpl.
 Watkins, Volley
 Wells, A.J.
 White, William
 Whitlock, John M.
 Whitlock, R. H.
 Wicks, C. F.

Wilkes, C. F.
 Wilkenson, William L.
 Williams, Beverly W.
 Williams, Isham E.
 Williams, J. K.
 Williams, John C. – Lt.
 Williams, John R. – Lt.
 Williams, R. L.
 Williams, William A.
 Wilroy, Henry
 Woodward, Joseph
 Woodward, M.
 Woodward, R. B.
 Woodward, R. Harrison
 Woodward, Robert A.
 Woodward, W. F.
 Woodward, William C.
 Woodward, William J.
 Wright, E.
 Wright, G. T.
 Wright, Robert
 Yales, Robert C.
 Young, H.
 Young, H. C.

Keys for the Cells

Many of our members may not know that the cells at our headquarters, the 1909 New Kent Jail, have been locked for years, and could not be opened with the available key. Jim Tacosa, and the County's maintenance crew recently changed all that.



Pictured above is Jim opening one of the cell doors. The maintenance crew also removed the bathroom fixtures which provides more space for records and repaired the tread and frame of the exterior door, eliminating an unsafe situation which has been with us for years. The Society appreciates the County's support.

Display at the New Kent Fair

The Historical Society had a fairly large exhibit at the Fair, thanks to members and non-members of the Society who contributed items. The Picture below shows the actual display, which was visited by quite a few people.



Contributors were: Bill Bowery, Dottie Brandon, Loretta Davis, Carolyn Dooley, Chap Harrison, Eugenia Hughes, Doug Mullen, Jackie Pomeroy and Cathy Pomfrey. The managers of the Fair, Martha Martin and Dottie Brandon made it possible for us to have this large exhibit space.

The Back Page

Please be prepared to vote on the attached revisions Nov. 20.

From Your President

As the optimist said to his friends on the way down after falling from a twentieth-floor window, "So far, it's okay!" I believe our Society is more than okay. Let's all keep working to make it stay that way. *Loretta Davis*

From Your Vice President

I am glad that you are taking the time to read our newsletter. We need your support in this endeavor to preserve the History of our beautiful County. The purpose of this society is to record, preserve, protect and pass New Kent County's history on to future generations. Feel free to visit us every Monday from 9 AM to noon. *Camilla Tramuel*

From Your Treasurer

The Society is grateful for your patronage and is pleased to welcome our new members. We are accepting new and renewed memberships for 2012. We thank you for your support in helping raise funds from our Wallace watercolor sales at the Fair and we look forward to your continued efforts. *Christine Mason*

Recent Gifts to the Society

A large assortment of documents, mostly compiled by Ann Elizabeth Crump Couch, was presented by her grand-daughter Annette Couch-Jareb.

A powder horn and an old tobacco pipe given by Jackie Pomeroy.

Newsletter

If you have email capabilities and have not signed up to receive your newsletter via email rather than US Mail, please do so. It will enable you to see the pictures in color as well as save postage and there is no opportunity for it to be lost or torn in the mail.

New Kent Fair Exhibit

Rather than have a table, we were fortunate to have half a room at the fair this year. We had a good exhibit of items, pictures, etc. In addition to gaining new members and selling more of the Billy Wallace watercolor prints, we became acquainted with many new people. **Dallas Olsin, Thomas Mountcastle** and **William Hodges** were kind enough to spend time keeping our exhibit open.

Letters to the Editor

Did you forget to write? No "Letters to the Editor" have been received. It's your newsletter. We need your thoughts and your ideas for improvements.

Annual Dues

We operate on a calendar year, so it's time to think of renewing your membership. If in doubt as to what you owe, please contact Treasurer Christine Mason.

Thanks to Our Members: (Alphabetically)

LaVonne Allen for being our Historian (keeping the Jail open for visitors Monday mornings) and co-editing the newspaper.

Martha Martin for being our Publicity Chairman.

Sharon Peery, a professional genealogist, has consented to help in answering some of the questions we get concerning New Kent and its inhabitants.

Gussie Pomfrey will be sorting papers at the Jail and getting our information better organized.

Pam Radwani for being our Society Advisor and contributing to the newsletter.

Everyone not specifically mentioned for supporting the Society through attendance at meetings, dues, ideas-- and yes, even criticism. Everything you do is appreciated.

Our Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be 2:30 PM, November 20, 2011, in the 1909 New Kent Courthouse. This is an important meeting for three reasons:

- 1: There will be an election of officers.
2. We will vote of revisions to our Constitution.
3. Our speaker will be Dr. Edward Longacre, who will speak of "Cousins in War"-- the Civil War careers of William Fitzhugh ("Rooney") Lee and Fitzhugh ("Fitz") Lee. Dr. Longacre is the author of over 25 books and numerous articles.

Condolences to the Family of Byron Graves

Byron "Sonny" W. Graves, Jr.,

died September 20, 2011, at age 83.

Born and raised at Windsor Shades, Virginia, Sonny was a member of our Society. One of his last accomplishments was authoring a book:

"New Kent Virginia - Men In Service - 1900-2010"

New Kent Historical Society Membership Application

Yearly membership \$15.00 _____ Lifetime membership \$200.00 _____
Business sponsor \$100.00-\$500.00 _____

Name _____

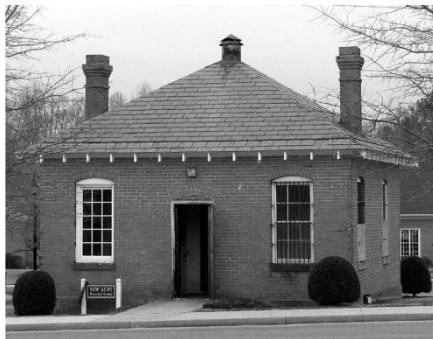
Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Surnames and other areas of interest or research in New Kent County history:

Please send comments, suggestions or newsletter submissions to:
NKHSmail@verizon.net or New Kent Historical Society, P. O. Box 24, New Kent, VA 23124

*New Kent Historical Society
P.O. Box 24
New Kent, VA 23124*



The Historical Society now uses the old jail at New Kent Courthouse to store documents and maps detailing the history of the county.