

Molder Of Citizens

A devoted patriot died last Sunday and nowhere will she be more mourned than in the hearts of the war brides and many others whom she converted into loyal and well-instructed new Americans.

Mrs. Adrian Davant Antrim spent most of 11 years from 1942 until 1953 as Americanization teacher for the public school system. A former school librarian who touched the lives of thousands of young Roanokers, she made practically a religion out of teaching new citizens.

But it was as a counsellor of scores of war brides from all parts of the world that Mrs. Antrim made her mark. This sweet-faced, lovely little lady took the homesick and bewildered foreign wives under her wing and became a mother-away-from-home to them.

The task became far more than coaching them on passing of citizenship examinations. They took to her their personal and family problems, their grief and joy, their hopes and fears. Her smile, her soft-voiced advice and often a bit of maternal upbraiding solved a lot of problems.

There was a general protest when she was compelled to retire seven years ago. After all, she was only 72 then and what are seven years over the customary retirement age for one who loved life and people so much? Things have not been quite the same since then for many of her proteges.

A noble life has come to its close but how wonderful that her influence will continue to live.

1960

Mrs. Parker Gives Shawl To Museum

A shawl which once belonged to her great-great-grandmother, Mrs. Elizabeth Uhl Griffing, has been presented to the Museum of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D.C., by Mrs. Felix Kay Parker of the Margaret Lynn Lewis Chapter, DAR, Roanoke.

The shawl's owner, born in Dutchess County, N.Y., was the wife of Ensign (and Lieutenant) Stephen Griffing, Revolutionary War officer.

The garment is dated by the museum authenticator not later than 1820, but is more likely to have been late 18th Century. Measuring 60 inches, it is of black silk crepe with a large brocade medallion in the center and is bordered with deep black silk fringe. Its condition is perfect. It is currently on exhibition in the museum which was founded in 1890, concurrently with the society, and which owns not less than ten thousand items, all Revolutionary relics.

Scattered over Memorial Continental Hall, but also part of the museum, are the many period rooms maintained by the state societies.

Museum and state rooms, as with the entire Memorial Continental Hall and Constitution Hall, are open to the public, Mondays through Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. except Congress Week in April when it is open only to members.

Women's Activities

Oct 10
1960

DAR Plans Help With Restoration

The Margaret Lynn Lewis chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, has voted to contribute to the restoration of Hanover County vestry books of 1706-1786.

That project is in connection with the restoration of Scotchtown, one-time home of Patrick Henry.

At its recent meeting, the chapter had a memorial service for three former members: Mrs. Ernest D. Penn, charter member, Mrs. Adrian Davant Antrim and Mrs. Henry A. Dudley.

It also welcomes Mrs. Gilbert Butler and Mrs. Charles Henry Topping into membership.

Guests at its meeting were members of the Mill Mountain chapter, Children of the American Revolution. Mrs. Creed K. Lemon Jr. was a charter member of the group and serves now as its senior president.

It gave a demonstration of one of its sessions and Miss Nancy Royall of Roanoke, student at Hollins College, read a paper on the Lewis family.

Guests included Mrs. William Anderson of Detroit, Mich., formerly of Roanoke; Mrs. Paul Yount of Salem, former regent of the Valley Forge, Pa., chapter; Mrs. H. T. Hopkins, Demopolis, Ala.; Mrs. Walter Arn and Mrs. W. Blair Mitchell of Roanoke.

Margaret Lynn, Mother Of Gen. Andrew Lewis, Was Pioneer Of Augusta County

9-9-60

By Mary M. Neal

For Margaret Lynn Lewis Chapter, DAR

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fifth and last column on Revolutionary War figures of the Roanoke area as prepared by Daughters of the American Revolution chapters in honor of American History Month.

THE MARGARET LYNN Lewis chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution is named for Andrew Lewis' mother.

General Lewis, the third son of John and Margaret Lynn, came with his parents from Ireland County, Ireland, in 1732. His father and mother were the first European settlers in Augusta County. In the wilds of the beautiful Shenandoah Valley, his father established his home and lived there until his death in 1762. His tomb is located two miles east of the town of Staunton, which he founded, and is on a hill overlooking the valley of the Lewis River and close by old Ft. Lewis, which was constructed under his supervision.

★ ★

ANDREW LEWIS, with this splendid background, distinguished himself as a soldier and statesman during the growth of our country. He helped bring the frontier wilderness of Virginia to civilization and made his home at Richfield, on 625 acres granted to him by patent, which embraced what is now the town

of Salem. Nearly half of his life was spent in military service, where he advanced rapidly from captain to general.

In 1754, he commanded as captain, a company of Augusta County volunteers at the capitulation of Ft. Necessity, with Maj. George Washington, where, by his coolness, he probably prevented a general massacre of Virginia troops. He served with distinction through the campaign of 1755 and displayed great courage in the bloody battle in which General Braddock was defeated on June 10, 1755. He also fought in the French and Indian war against Chief Cornstalk at the battle of Pt. Pleasant in 1774, thus ridding Virginia of hostile invasion and contributing to the success of the colonies in their struggle for freedom.

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THE COMMANDING abilities of General Lewis were as efficiently devoted to the arts of peace as to the sternest duties of war. In civil affairs as well as in the field, his sound judgment and resolute will made him a leader of men.

General Lewis was one of the first justices of Botetourt

County, representing the county in the House of Burgesses. He was a member of the Convention of 1775 and believed in the rights of the colonies.

He had the good fortune to drive from the state the last Indian foe and expel from the soil of Virginia, Lord Dunmore, the last of the royal governors. No officer enjoyed so fully the confidence of Washington. It is said that Washington recommended him for post of Commander-in-Chief of the Continental armies, however, he resigned his commission in the Army and died of fever in 1781, shortly before the Revolutionary War ended.

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THE EXACT SPOT where he was buried near his home, might have been lost but for the thoughtfulness of Frederick Johnston, of Salem, who marked the grave with boulder stones and painted Andrew Lewis' name on one of them.

After 116 years, the Daughters of the American Revolution had General Lewis' remains removed to East Hill Cemetery, Salem, which was part of his farm at the time of his death. Since that time, the Daughters of the American Revolution have considered it a privilege to care for this distinguished Virginians' final resting place.

Sunday Morning, March 4, 1962.

The Discovery of an Early Area Artist

By PRISCILLA YOUNG



Mrs. Cocke's Winning Sketch

THE "first artist of Roanoke" is a title which undoubtedly belongs to a gracious Virginia housewife and mother who died 63 years ago. She is Lelia Maria Smith Cocke, wife of the first mayor of the city of Roanoke and daughter-in-law of the founder and first president of Hollins College.

This fact has come to light with her first one-man show of paintings and drawings, which just opened at the Hollins Art Foyer. Her work will be on view through March 17. The impressive exhibit is the result of the persistent efforts of Ulysse Desportes, professor of art at the college.

"I became interested in Mrs. Cocke when I saw her painting of her mother-in-law, Susanna Pleasants Cocke, which has always hung in one of the main parlors," he said.

"Two other paintings of hers are here; and I had the opportunity of cleaning them and restoring still another," he told us. "I couldn't help but admire her vigorous, sure style. She paints like a man, you know, so unusual in any woman . . . particularly a

modest, 19th-century Virginia lady. I had to see more of her work," he confessed.

Many of the charcoal studies and oil sketches on display were retrieved from an all-but-forgotten portfolio, which had been stored in her daughter's attic for over 50 years.

Mr. Desportes took a truck to gather up the work from the homes of the artist's three living children: Mr. C. Francis Cocke; Mr. Lucian H. Cocke, Jr.; and Mrs. William H. Goodwin. Paintings of these three now on view, were done in 1893, commissioned for the Virginia Pavilion at the Chicago Exposition, where they were easily the most popular pictures of the show. A fourth child, the late Mrs. King Funkhouser, was an infant at the time Mrs. Cocke did the paintings; and all of the others remember that their mother painted them while she held their sister on her lap.

Mrs. Cocke was born in 1859 in Pavilion V. of Jefferson's famed quadrangle at the University of Virginia, where her father was professor of natural philosophy.

At the age of 16 she went to New York City, an unheard of

thing to do for a Southern lady in those days that followed the Civil War, to study art at Cooper Union.

When she was there but four months she won a competition for portrait drawing over 200 other contestants, many of whom had been studying four years. She won with the forceful charcoal study shown here with this column.

Mrs. Cocke's paintings are forceful and direct. She worked in the tradition of Eakins, capturing immediate likenesses with great speed. "Her portraits go beyond the recording of mere facts of light and shade," Ulysse Desportes said. "Just look at the ears," he pointed out. "They are poems of virtuosity."

What also should be known about Mrs. Cocke is that she was not only a gracious hostess and mother. She organized the Margaret Lynn Lewis Chapter of the DAR, the first in Roanoke; she arranged for the first flower shows; and organized the first lectures and "dramatic entertainments." For a modest, unassuming gentlewoman, who died in her 40th year, Lelia M. Cocke has much to offer us today. Those who visit her first one-man show during the next three weeks will find her work speaks for itself.

NECROLOGY

With deep regret the National Society announces the death, on Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 1962, of Sally Smith (Mrs. Arthur) Rowbotham, Honorary Vice President General, at Richmond, Va. Mrs. Rowbotham was Honorary State Regent of Virginia and a Past Vice President General, and was a member of Commonwealth Chapter of Richmond; for many years she was affiliated with Margaret Lynn Lewis Chapter of Roanoke.

Among her survivors is her daughter, Miss Sara K. Rowbotham, of 12 West Locke Lane, Richmond 21, Va.

Mark Evans And Son Daniel Owned Extensive Lands And Gave Mill Mt. Its Name; McClanahans Took Over In 1782

By Raymond Barnes

MARK EVANS IS MY favorite pioneer, primarily because he was the first to take up lands on which a large portion of the City of Roanoke is built. Having the whole countryside from which to choose, he took his time about it and selected fertile lands, well fed by gushing springs and running water.

Embraced in grants of land in the northwest section of present

Roanoke, Evans owned the big spring flowing a million and a half gallons per day, just east of the Cove Road in the Fairland Addition, also Cedar Spring near the junction of the Moorman Road at Tenth Street. Across the river he owned 87



Barnes

acres including Crystal Spring, flowing 5,000,000 gallons of pure water per diem. Daniel Evans inherited the big spring and ran the mill which gave the mountain above it the name it bears today. Daniel, dying prior to 1753, left his wife Rhoda, and it was at her home that George Washington spent a night when he was on a tour inspecting forts in October of 1756.

Rhoda married Robert Doggett and in 1782 sold the mill place and "fountain" to William McClanahan who came to the Roanoke Valley in 1769. McClanahan was land hungry and purchased or "took up" land to such an extent that according to a survey made March 25, 1795, he owned 3,170 acres including the mill place.

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Where the house of Daniel Evans stood, we do not know but hazard that it was built close to the big spring, as was the custom of pioneers, for Indians usually made their raids at dawn, and it was a popular ruse to catch a pioneer on the way to get water.

William McClanahan now made the mill tract his home and family legend has it that he built a log house on the site of the present First Presbyterian Church (S. Jefferson and McClanahan). The legend is questionable as far as it ascribes to this house portholes for protection against the Indians. The Indian menace had long since retreated far beyond the Alleghany Mountains and it is improbable William McClanahan would have encumbered his house with such useless precaution.

In like manner the bronze plaque on the front steps of our Municipal Building wrongly assigns the site of this house as Fort Mason. The journal of George Washington shows this fort, if it ever existed, to be at the home of John Mason near the Harvey-Starkey house "Speedwell" above Starkey station.

When William McClanahan died in 1820 he owned so much land in present Roanoke County that he was enabled to give to each of his sons, Col. Elijah, Green, James and John an extensive plantation.

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Elijah married Agatha Strother Lewis, a daughter of Col. Andrew Lewis of Bent Mountain and today both lie in neglected and vandal-beset graves on a knoll just off 24th Street, N.W. (See marker picture.)

Another son, Green, inherited what my generation knew as the W. W. Berkley place on Glade Creek below Vinton. Green McClanahan was the father of Elijah G. McClanahan (b. Oct. 10, 1817) who married first Sarah M. Hurt of Lynchburg and second Emma S. Crenshaw of the same city.

In 1855 Elijah McClanahan razed the old log house built by his grandfather, William, and erected the attractive house shown in the top picture on this page. When the Town of Big Lick was chartered in 1874, the need for a bank soon became apparent. In 1878 the Bank of Virginia was chartered with Elijah G. McClanahan as its president. The institution flourished and it is of interest that S. D. Ferguson, now 93 years of age, and the late Jack W. Hancock held their first positions in the bank when they came to Roanoke. Patterson Rorer married a daughter of Elijah McClanahan, but he and his

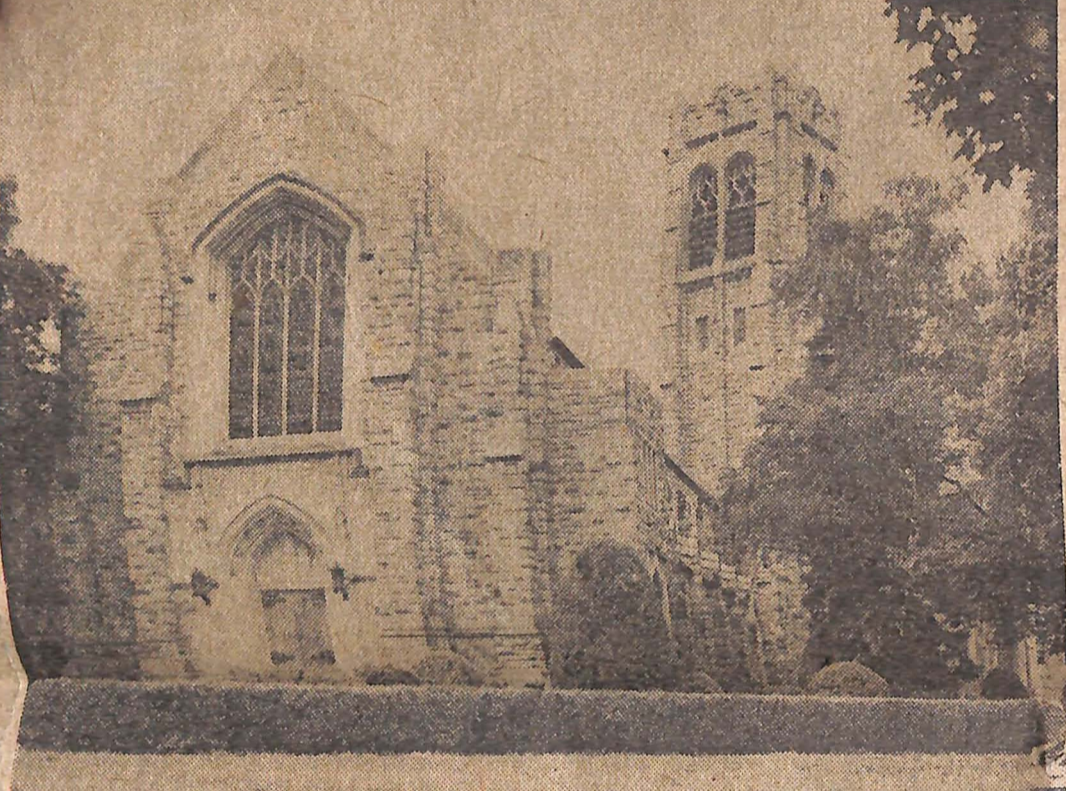
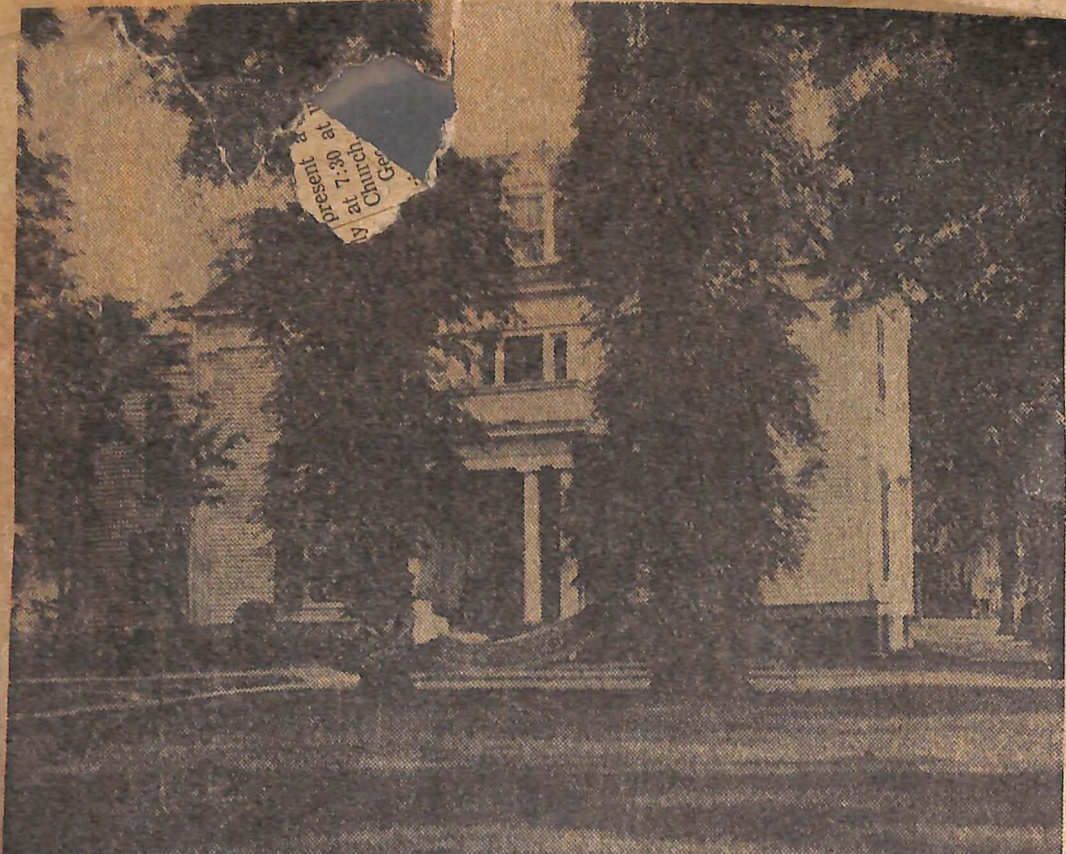
father, Ferdinand Rorer, became so involved in the panic of 1884 that their failure dealt the little bank such a mortal blow it soon folded up. McClanahan never recovered from the misfortune and died Feb. 11, 1892. His widow, Emma Crenshaw McClanahan lived on in the home until her death Dec. 13, 1910.

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In the meantime William S. McClanahan, his son (b. Jan. 20, 1869), married Mrs. Annie J. Stanard and by her had two children, William Elijah (b. June 18, 1901) and Robert W. C. McClanahan (b. Feb. 10, 1903). He built the handsome frame residence across the street from his old home which recently was demolished to make way for the Roanoke Hospital Rehabilitation Center.

During the prosperous twenties, the First Presbyterian Church, experiencing the need for larger quarters, purchased the old Elijah G. McClanahan home and demolished it in 1928 to make way for their handsome new edifice which was dedicated June 23, 1929 (center photo).

The Crystal Spring Land Company came into possession of around a thousand acres of McClanahan land in 1890 with a capital of \$400,000. The old name of McClanahan Spring was discarded and the more grandiose title Crystal Spring employed in its stead.

Jefferson and Walnut Street bridges were built by the Roanoke Gas and Water Company and Jefferson Street extended from Walnut Avenue out to Virginia College (about 25th St.). McClanahan Street was originally a country lane leading from the Carolina Trail (Franklin Road) near Tosh's Ford to Mark Evans' Mill. Practically all other thoroughfares in this neighborhood were laid out by the land company.

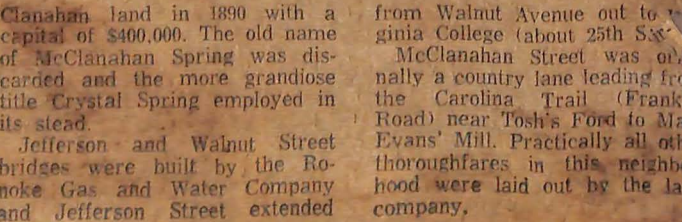


ELIJAH G. McCLANAHAN erected in 1855 the attractive home (top photo) demolished in 1928 to make way for the new First Presbyterian Church sanctuary (center photo). The McClanahans, being Scottish, have been pillars of this church for generations. His grandfather, Col. Elijah McClanahan, married Agatha Strother Lewis, daughter of Col. Andrew Lewis. They lie in neglected vandalized graves on a knoll near the 24th Street marker (below) and across the street from old Nestlebrook.

AGATHA STROTHER LEWIS

ON A KNOLL TO THE NORTHEAST IS THE GRAVE OF AGATHA STROTHER LEWIS, WIFE OF ELIJAH McCLANAHAN, DAUGHTER OF COLONEL ANDREW LEWIS AND GRAND-DAUGHTER OF GENERAL ANDREW LEWIS. BORN MARCH 15, 1779; DIED JUNE 14, 1852. ALSO THE GRAVE OF COLONEL ELIJAH McCLANAHAN, HER HUSBAND, BORN APRIL 20, 1770, DIED DECEMBER 1, 1837.

ERECTED BY THE MARGARET LEWIS CHAPTER, N. S. D. A. R. 1932.



DAR Exhibit Has Historic Interest

Six chapters of the Roanoke Area Regent's Council of the Daughters of the American Revolution contributed items of historical interest and value to a department store window arrangement shown recently.

A portrait of George Washington as a young man, prop-

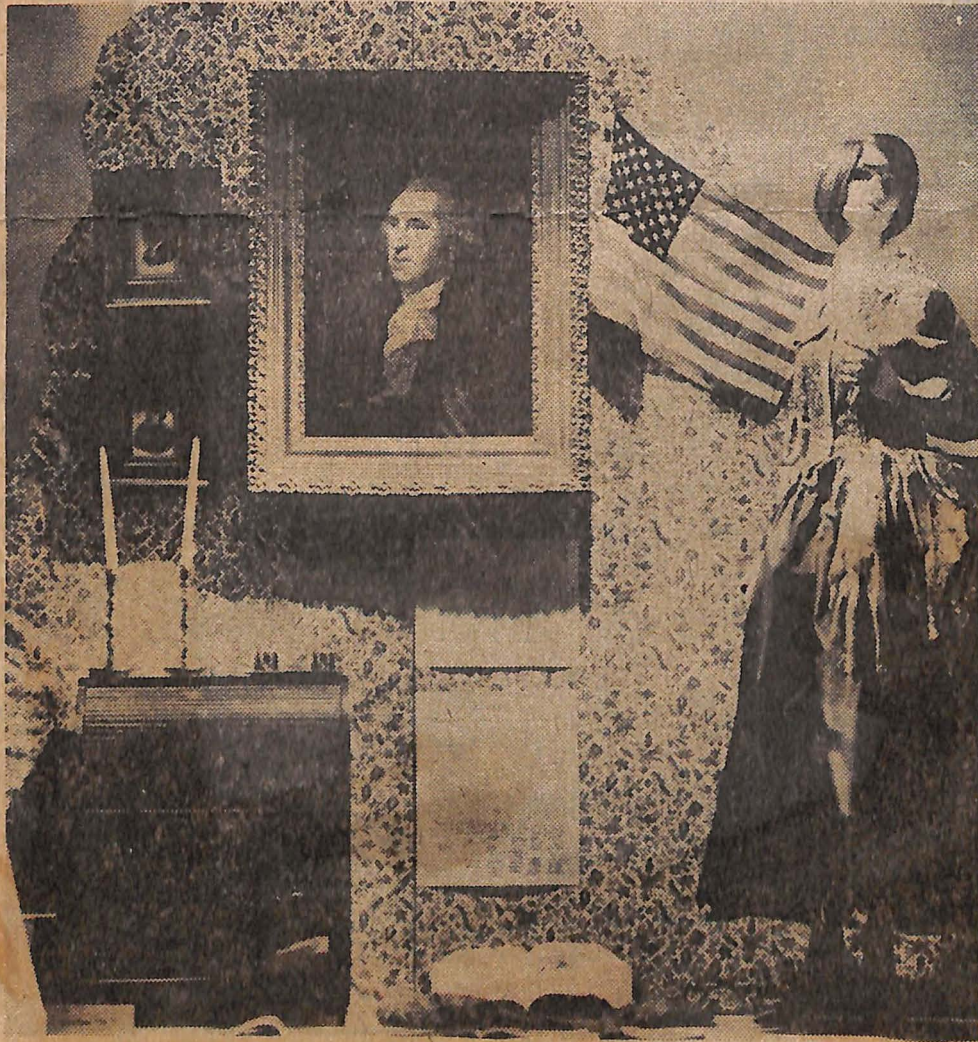
erty of Mrs. Arthur Ellett of the Nancy Christian Fleming chapter, dominates the scene.

A manikin representing Betsy Ross is at his right gowned in a costume of the Revolutionary era and property of Mrs. C. T. Kennett of the Col. William Preston chapter.

Beneath copies of Washington's prayer and the Declaration of Independence, contributed by the Gen. James Breckinridge chapter, is an old volume of American history, property of Mrs. Paul Bowen of the Preston chapter.

At the left of Washington are steel engravings of Alexander Hamilton and John Quincy Adams belonging to Mrs. Frank Pittman of the Margaret Lynn Lewis chapter.

She owns too, the mahogany roll top cabinet used to store tall beaver hats. Atop it are antique candle sticks and ink wells.



This tableau appeared in a window of Miller & Rhoads store for three weeks in observance of American History Month.

Historic Drawing Room is State DAR Project

BLACKSBURG — The first state project of the Daughters of the American Revolution to be undertaken in Southwest Virginia will be the furnishing of Smithfield Plantation's drawing room.

The mansion, built in 1772 as the residence of the late Col. Wil-

liam Preston, on 4½ acres was deeded by Mrs. Brockenborough Lamb of Richmond in 1961. Mrs.

Lamb is a direct descendant of Col. Preston.

tal in securing Smithfield and in furthering the DAR project through the Montgomery Chapter of APVA. The property adjoins the VPI campus.

The Daughters, who number over 6,000 in Virginia, make up 109 chapters. According to them, the project of restoring the Preston home was undertaken because "it expresses the aims of the society for patriotism, historic value and educational furtherance."

The decision was made at a meeting of the State DAR board Tuesday in Richmond. Unanimous support to this three-year project was given after its presentation by Mrs. Robert A. Fisher of Blacksburg who represented District Seven's Smithfield Committee.

The committee is composed of the following members: Mrs. Robert S. Hopkins, Radford; Mrs. C. W. Crush, Christiansburg; Mrs. Susie R. Manges, Placksburg; Mrs. M. A. Tarter, Roanoke; Mrs. Richard P. Adams, Christiansburg; Mrs. J. Myron Clark, Stuart; Mrs. Hugh S. Kearfoot, Martinsville, and Mrs. F. W. Burks, Bedford. These members were appointed April 19 by the director, Mrs. W. F. Jennings of Christiansburg.

Actual furnishings for Smithfield's drawing room will be selected by a Richmond interior decorator. The proposal is for a detailed replacement of furniture, lighting, draperies, rugs and other accessories to duplicate the original. This room will be known as the Virginia Daughters' Drawing Room of Virginia. Antiques will be genuine 18th Century pieces.

Structure on the mansion is soon to get under way.

Smithfield is expected to attract many visitors to Virginia and to take its place in importance along with other historic shrines.

Dr. George Shackelford of the VPI faculty has been instrumen-



Smithfield . . . Home of the Late Col. William Preston

Editorial View

6 Roanoke World-News, Wednesday, March 20, 1963

DAR And The Smithfield Project

The name *Daughters of the American Revolution* is a proud one that encompasses far more than the popular misconception of a group of elderly ancestor worshippers.

Patriotic. Yes, and rightfully so. Any nation of people is bankrupt when it no longer reveres its history or seeks to keep eternally green the memory of those who shed their blood or died for the blessings of liberty.

Through the limited means of its members the DAR not only seeks to extol the virtues of patriotism by scholarship, essay and public speaking awards but it assumes in many instances the cloak of historical foundation.

One of the most notable efforts by the Virginia regency is its assistance in the restoration and preservation of *Smithfield*, home of the famed Preston clan at Blackburg.

Smithfield, erected by Col. William Preston in 1773, was the manor house on a 200,000-acre plantation which came to him after the death of his uncle, Col. James Patton, after the Drapers Meadow massacre of July, 1755.

Here were born two Virginia

governors; James Patton Preston and John B. Floyd. A direct descendant, Mrs. Brockenbrough Lamb, of Richmond, conveyed the house and its environs of about 4½ acres to the Montgomery Chapter of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities four years ago this month.

Something like \$85,000 has been raised in cash and pledges toward restoration with the Commonwealth contributing \$30,000 during the current biennium. Serious work is scheduled to begin under the eye of a Roanoke architectural firm this spring, requiring several years.

This project, we might add, is the most extensive and significant historical project to be undertaken west of the Blue Ridge. It is so important because it will preserve one of the few great pre-Revolutionary frontier homes still standing, turning it into a tourist shrine for the future.

Presently the Virginia DAR is working toward furnishing the great drawing room of *Smithfield*. The fine "L" shaped structure of modified Georgian architecture, closely akin to the Williamsburg style, was falling into ruin until the APVA took an interest, inspired by Dr. George Green Shackelford, professor of history at VPI and APVA director.

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Presently the Virginia DAR, working closely with the APVA, is seeking to refurbish the great drawing room. "That the future may learn from the past" is a vital slogan to both.

Thus, it is, with pleasure that *The World-News* salutes the Virginia DAR which convened in Roanoke last night for its 67th state conference. These devoted and dedicated women deserve a hand from us all.

300 Members Attending State Meet

Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution, registering more than 300 strong at Hotel Roanoke today, turned to an afternoon of memory while awaiting Gov. Albertis Harrison's official conference opening this evening.

Mrs. William E. Barton of Daleville, state chaplain, conducted a memorial service for 113 members who died between February, 1962 and February, 1963.

Special tribute was paid the late Mrs. Arthur A. Rowbotham of Salem, honorary state regent and honorary vice president general, national DAR; and to Mrs. Gayle Cox of Independence, organizing regent of that chapter.

After the service, the organization moved to nearby Fincastle to place a wreath at the courthouse marker honoring Gen. James Breckinridge, famed Revolutionary figure. His grave is in a field near the town.

With colorful pomp and presentation of officers, the state group's evening session will start with dinner and an address by the governor of Virginia. A reception for the state regent, Mrs. Robert B. Smith of Newport News; distinguished guests and state officers will follow.

Mrs. Smith's conference aide is Lt. Gen. (ret.) Withers A. Burress of Salem; her pages, Mrs. Earle E. Davis Jr. of Alexandria and Mrs. John R. Tumperi of Roanoke.

Special awards will be made at a youth breakfast tomorrow with the announcement of the Miss Junior DAR contest winner, Children of the American Revolution and DAR good citizens and presentation of a bond to the state good citizen winner.

The regent will make her official report before lunch and a report of the resolutions committee, headed by Mrs. George H. Ross of Richmond, is expected to be of interest during the afternoon.

A banquet for chapter regents will close Wednesday's activities and the state conference is to end Thursday after breakfast.

DAR Founding To Be Noted

The Margaret Lynn Lewis chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), will observe the 75th anniversary of its founding during a luncheon Saturday at Hotel Roanoke.

The chapter's name honors a distinguished Virginian of Scottish ancestry who came to this country with her husband, John Lewis, in 1729. She was

the mother of Gen. Andrew Lewis of Revolutionary War fame.

The Roanoke chapter was organized in February, 1894 by Mrs. Lucian H. Cocke, daughter-in-law of the founder of Hollins College, an accomplished artist, and mother of C. Francis Cocke and Lucian H. Cocke Jr. of Roanoke.

Chapter records show Mrs. Cocke "issued a personal invitation to a number of her friends to meet in her home . . . with a view to organizing a chapter of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution."

She became the first regent, and the chapter's minutes book for March of that year shows the following as members:

Mrs. T. H. Bransford, Mrs. A. C. Christian, Mrs. Cocke; Miss Mary M. Daniel, Mrs. W. S. Gooch, Mrs. M. A. Hambrick (a great-granddaughter of Patrick Henry), Mrs. E. T. Kindred, Mrs. J. C. Lazell, Mrs. Thomas Lewis, Mrs. T. M. Miller, Mrs. R. H. Soule and Mrs. J. R. Schick.

Others were Mrs. W. W. S. Butler, Mrs. T. F. Barksdale, Miss Agnes Palmer, Miss Annie H. Penn, Miss Lucy D. Penn, Miss A. B. Schackelford and Mrs. A. P. Staples.

The 12:30 p.m. luncheon program will include a sketch of the organizing regent's life by Mrs. R. Hoskins Slater. A number of guests are expected, including descendants of early chapter members.



Mrs. Lucian Cocke
Self portrait at Hollins College

Lewis Brothers Were Pioneer Leaders

By GOODRIDGE WILSON

The five sons of John Lewis and Margaret Lynn, his wife, early settlers near the site of Staunton, were powerful men, and mighty useful on the Virginia frontier. Four of them, Samuel, Thomas, Andrew, and William were born in Ireland. Charles, the youngest, was born soon after his parents settled in what became Augusta County.

All of them except Thomas, the second son, acquired military titles, all being colonels at one time or another in their careers. Andrew, the third son, became a general. Thomas was disqualified for military service by defective eyesight, but he was probably called "colonel" by virtue of being a member of the House of Burgesses. He was County Surveyor of Augsuta and held other positions of trust and honor. His four brothers were all present at Braddock's defeat, and three of them were severely wounded in that disaster.

Samuel, the oldest son, was conspicuous in border warfare in Greenbrier County. Gen. Andrew's record is well known. Charles, ranking as colonel, was county lieutenant of Augusta County

when he was killed in the Battle of Point Pleasant, and was perhaps the most popular hero of the border at that time. William was commissioned a colonel of the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War.

ALL FIVE OF THE LEWIS BROTHERS were big men, physically powerful and famed for their athletic agility.

William, the fourth son, never sought distinction as a soldier. He was a man of peace who served his country conscientiously in the camp and on the battlefield in time of war. McCauley's "History of Roanoke County" says:

"At the organization of the army, at the beginning of the Revolution, he was commissioned as one of the colonels of the Continental line. When the British forces under Tarleton drove the Legislature from Charlottesville to Staunton, the stillness of the Sabbath eve was broken in the latter town by the beat of the drum, and volunteers were called for to prevent the passage of the British through the mountains at Rockfish Gap. The elder sons of William Lewis, who then resided at the old fort, were absent with the Northern Army. Three sons, however, whose ages were 17, 15 and 13 years, were at home. The father was confined to his room by sickness, but his wife, with the firmness of a Spartan mother, called them to her and bade them take their rifles to Rockfish Gap and see to it that the valley was not polluted by the foot of a British soldier. When this incident was related to Washington shortly after its occurrence he enthusiastically exclaimed, 'Leave me but a banner to plant upon the mountains of Augusta, and I will rally around me the men who will lift our bleeding country from the dust and set her free.' The name of this heroic mother, before her marriage, was Anne Montgomery, a native of Delaware.

"**COL. WILLIAM LEWIS WAS AN ELDER** in the Presbyterian Church, and his kind deeds and daily walk and conversation comported with his Christian profession. His influence on the rough frontiersmen was so elevating that he was styled the Civilizer of the Border. He removed from Augusta County to the Sweet Springs, Virginia, where he died in 1812."

The physical strength and military prowess of the Lewis men appeared in the grandsons of the founders of this family in America. A notable member of the third generation was Maj. John Lewis of Sweet Springs, the oldest son of Col. William. He served with distinction under his uncles, Andrew and Charles, in the Point Pleasant Campaign. When his younger brothers were being sent by their mother to stop Tarleton's cavalry at Rockfish Gap he was fighting with Gen. Washington in the northern areas of conflict. He joined the Continental Army early in the war as a lieutenant and was a major at its close.

He was engaged in the Battles of Saratoga, Trenton, Monmouth and others and spent the winter of 1777 at Valley Forge. After the war he made his home at Sweet Springs. He married Mary Preston, a daughter of Col. William Preston, who was born and reared at "Smithfield." One of his granddaughters wrote about him as follows: "From 1783 to Wayne's victory over western Indians in 1794 Major Lewis was much on the frontier, had many encounters with savages, and won applause for his personal strength. He was only five feet ten inches high, but his muscular power was enormous. It was commonly said that he was the Strongest man in Virginia." Like his father he was a beloved elder in his church. Both of them are buried in the old Lewis graveyard at Sweet Springs.

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	One Yr.	Six Mos.	Three Mos.	One Mo.
Daily and Sunday	\$27.00	\$13.50	\$7.50	\$2.60
Daily Only	20.00	10.00	5.25	2.00
Sunday Only	10.40	5.20	2.60	1.00

(By Carrier—Payable Weekly)

Daily and Sunday 55c	Daily Only 35c
Daily and Sunday (By Motor Route)	\$2.40 Per Month

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Telephone Dial 344-3211 All Calls

Dec 11, 1966

Special Edition

Prepared For The Entertainment And Information Of Friends of Historic Fincastle

THE BOTETOURT COUNTY NEWS and THE FINCASTLE HERALD

Botetourt's ALL-COUNTY Newspaper--Established 1866--Our 101st Year Of Service

SPECIAL EDITION

ESTABLISHED 1866

FINCASTLE, VIRGINIA, 24090

THE HOME NEWS EVERY WEEK. TEN CENTS PER COPY

SPECIAL EDITION

Several Homes In Fincastle Reflect Earlier Life, Times

"Carper House and Cabin"

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Weir Thompson, known as the Carper house was bought by Mr. George Carper in 1856. It consisted of the brick part only. The frame construction was added about 1880. The log cabin, now used by Mr. Thompson as a shop for refinishing antique furniture was built in 1792-, frame.

"Hedrick House"

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Cromer Hedrick, is one of the oldest houses in town. Mr. Hedrick's great-grandfather was a tailor and is said to have made the first uniforms for V.P.I. in this house.

"Ammen House"

Here the Ammen family lived that ran a mill where woolen material was woven. During the War Between the States many uniforms for Confederate soldiers were made in Ammen's Mill. This house also has interesting old woodwork and windows. It is now owned by Mrs. H. I. Switzer.

"Prospect Hill"

Prospect Hill was built in the early 1800's by John Gray and was originally called Gray's Folly. It remained in the hands of the descendants of John Gray almost continually, until Mr. and Mrs. James McDowell purchased it in 1940. It was then restored and the wings added. In addition to having a glorious view on all sides, the house contains fine old wood-work paneling, original mantels, beaded molding and stencil work.

"Kyle House"

The Kyle House known locally as Central Hotel, or more recently as Bolton's Store is built flush with the street at the corner of Main and Church

(Continued on Page 3)

First Fincastle Court House Built In 1770

The first court house on this site was built in 1770. It was of log construction. In the space around it were stocks and a ducking stool.

The second court house was started in 1818. It was made of brick with a dome in the center and chimneys on the east and west ends. The plans for this building were drawn by Thomas Jefferson. His letter to General James Breckinridge transmitting these plans read in part: Monticello, Oct. 6-18. "You have had a right to suppose me very unmindful of my promise to furnish you with drawings for your court house, yet the fact is not so. A few days after I parted with you, the use of the waters of the Warm Spring began to affect me unfavorably. These sufferings, aggravated by the torment of the journey home over the rocks and mountains I had to pass had reduced me to the lowest state of exhaustion by the time I had got back. I have been on the recovery some time and still am so but not yet able to sit erect for writing. By working at your drawings a little everyday, I have been able to complete and now to forward them by mail, with the explanations accompanying them. I hope your workman will sufficiently understand them. I send also some seed of the succory (chicory) which I think I promised you. I shall not despair, in my annual rambles to the Natural Bridge of being able at some time to extend them to Fincastle."

The present Court House was erected in 1847-48 and was copied from the Jefferson Court House of 1818.

Within the vaults of the clerk's office in the building, can be seen grants of land to General George Washington and to Thomas Jefferson, for land now being a part of the states of West Virginia and Kentucky. You may also see the marriage bond of General Wm Clark of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Records also show that men were excused from jury service in this court, who lived on the banks of the Ohio River, because of the distance from the Court House.

The edicts issued from this building were law within its territory, which extended to the Mississippi River and contained all or parts of the states of West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

(Continued on Page 4)



This early photograph of Court House in Fincastle...
...shows stepping-stones in surface of West Roanoke Street.

It is now owned by Mrs. H. I. Switzer.

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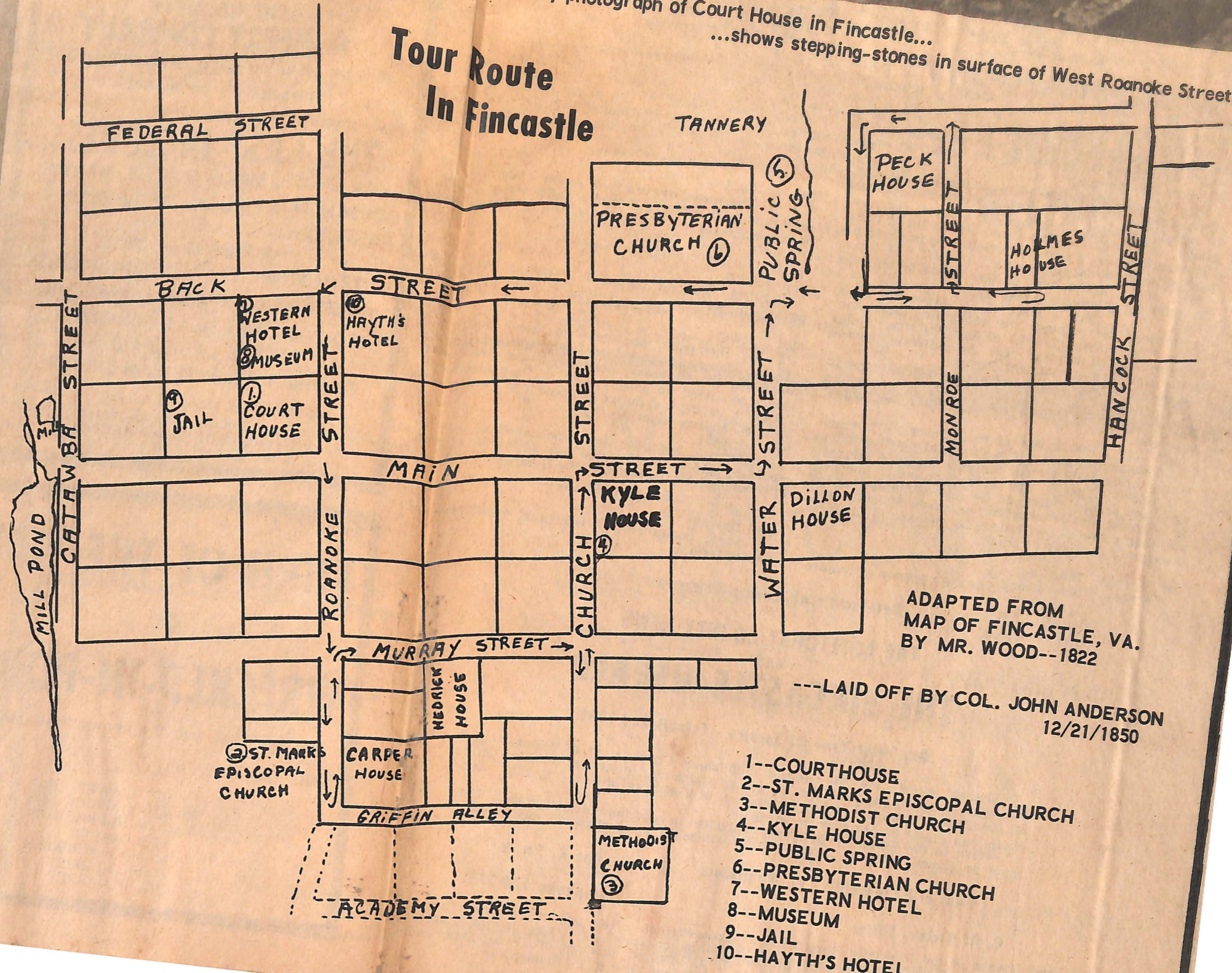
(Continued on Page 4)



This early photograph of Court House in Fincastle...
...shows stepping-stones in surface of West Roanoke Street.



old-style lights...
...dress Court House for tours.



ADAPTED FROM
MAP OF FINCASTLE, VA.
BY MR. WOOD--1822

---LAID OFF BY COL. JOHN ANDERSON
12/21/1850

Special Edition Prepared On Early Fincastle

This special edition is designed to show a sample of life in Fincastle from Colonial Times through its glorious years as a "spa" in the latter part of the last century, to the present. It is only a sample; there are many homes not described, many interesting mantels, stairways and balconies unmentioned. If your ancestors did not make our columns, it was due to lack of space.

All excerpts, play bills and ads are actual copies, taken from old issues of the Fincastle Herald, its predecessors or from privately owned papers.

The brochure committee expresses special gratitude to the following: Miss Frances Niederer author of "The Town of Fincastle, Virginia" and to R. D. Stoner, author of "A Seed Bed of the Republic, Early Botetourt."

The Case For Preserving History In Fincastle

(As presented before the Cultural Commission in Roanoke, March 31, 1967)

"Why Should The Commonwealth of Virginia Be Interested in the Small Town of Fincastle?"

Since Fincastle is small, it has retained many of the early buildings, some of them without material change, which add their charm to the quaintness and attractiveness of the community. Since so-called "progress" has passed this village by, many of these early buildings can be restored rather than resurrected.

The Established Church Building, with its surrounding graveyard, is much the same as it was in 1770, when its Parish extended to the Mississippi River. In the surrounding cemetery are buried the progenitors of many of those families that pioneered the settlement of Southwest Virginia and Kentucky. In the county clerk's office are deposited the records of our early pioneer families, and thousands visit this village from the South, the West and the Northwest seeking knowledge of them.

Upon the establishment of Fincastle in 1770, the industries of that day sprang up and became a self-sufficient town, and "The Frontier Town" of the colony—the last place where adequate supplies could be purchased by those going west into the unknown wilderness. In 1800 it boasted of having the second newspaper to be established west of the Blue Ridge Mountains. As the county seat of Botetourt, its authority extended from the water shed of the Blue Ridge Mountains southward to the Virginia-North Carolina border, and westward to the Mississippi River. It had its own surveyor for the territory on the Ohio River; and the battle of Point Pleasant was fought in its territory in 1774, where the frontiersmen fought under the command of its Magistrate, Col. Andrew Lewis, whose stature facing westward on our Capitol Square in Richmond depicts the "personification of the colonial era," as the Town of Fincastle projected the struggle for the conquest of the Western wilderness.

Most of the streets are the same as they were when laid off in 1770, and over them have paraded the militia companies on their way to Point Pleasant and to the Indian Expeditions to the south and west, and to the Revolutionary battlefields. Over them Bishop Asbury passed to exhort the villagers in the religion of the day, and designed a plan for the first Methodist Church here. Over them, Capt. Patrick Lockhart departed to escort the British prisoners captured at Kings Mountain for imprisonment at Fincastle—this at the request of Governor Thomas Jefferson. In Fincastle are lodged the records by which George Washington's representatives perfected before the County Justices his ownership of Natural Bridge.

Lieutenants Merriweather Lewis and William Clark strolled along the streets of Fincastle, courting young Fincastle women, during visits here on furloughs from the French and Indian wars; and William Clark after his return from the Lewis & Clark Expedition deposited his books and records of this expedition in the home of his future father-in-law. In this same home Patrick Henry visited his niece, Mrs. Henry Bowyer; and General James Breckinridge carried along these same streets, from the post office to his own office, the plans drawn by Thomas Jefferson for the County Court House.

Negotiations are now in progress between the Appalachian Power Company, the Town of Fincastle and the Board of Supervisors of Botetourt County looking toward the underground placement of all electrical wiring around the Court House, and to remove the present street lamps in the Town of Fincastle, replacing them with replicas of the original oil lamps used in the village. Within the past twelve months, a museum has been established on the Court House Square, through the efforts of the Roanoke and the Botetourt Historical societies.

Some Quick Looks At Fincastle Life Across The Years

Items of Fincastle and Botetourt County from "The Herald of the Valley"—1820-23 and "The Fincastle Mirror"—1823-29
Compiled by A. L. Burger
From papers loaned by Mrs. James McDowell

Sept. 28, 1822
Prevailing prices of Lynchburg market: tobacco—\$4-\$10 a hundred, corn—\$3.50-\$4.00 a barrel, coffee—\$28-\$31 a hundred, flour—\$5.50-\$6 a barrel, bacon—\$.12-\$.14 a lb., whiskey \$.42-\$.45 a gallon.

Nov. 30, 1823
Lost: "The subscriber had in his possession a subscription paper for the purpose of building a meeting house for the Society of Baptists in the town of Fincastle, to which there was subscribed upwards of \$400 which paper he lost sometime since." Should it

from this part of the country without paying what he owed the printers; this is to remind him of his forgetfulness, and of his breach of promise; and that he may also be reminded of the amount, his account with us stands thus: to his subscription to the Herald, commencing with No. 44 Vol. 1—\$3.00. That the tradesmen of the West may know him, we give a short description of his person. He is a stonemason by trade, and a short, thick-set Dutchman; they would do well to receive payment in advance of him.

Oct. 31, 1823
Announcement of the opening of the Fincastle Academy "for the instruction of young Gentlemen and Ladies where will be taught English, Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Rhetoric, Moral and Natural Philosophy, English Composition, History, &c."



Jockey Alley, above, was busy trading spot...

...during court days held in old Fincastle.

Horsetrading was a thriving business and one that was often followed to the exclusion of all other activities on "Court Days." Fincastle saw much of the horsetrader. In fact, one street was set aside for the jockeys and was thus known as Jockey Alley. It runs from the Big Spring on the east to Covington Turnpike (Rt. 220) on the west. This street is still so-called.

In 1890 there were four barrooms in town and the horsetraders took full advantage of them. Fights were frequently along the Alley and even one murder

had its origin in the Alley. It is said that two traders who lived in the same general section of the county had very harsh words over a trade while still in town; on the way home they engaged in a fight. One drew a gun and killed the other. The killer was tried in the local court and given 15 years.

One fellow once boasted that he made seven trades one day, winding up with the same horse he brought to the alley, but in addition he had \$37, a watch, a pocket knife and the promise of a phonograph.

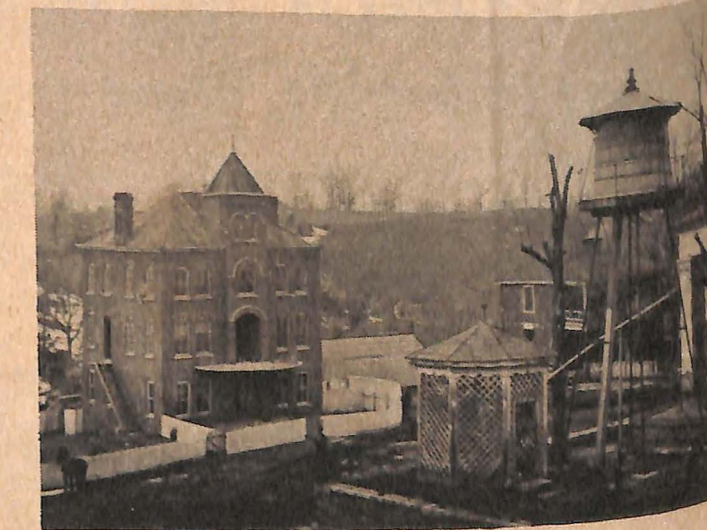
Old Jail Built In 1897 Is Still Standing Here

On March 13, 1770, the Justices of the County agreed with workmen to build a prison of log construction 16 by 20 feet, with an addition at one end the same size for the residence of the "gaoler".

The present building was built in 1897. On April 13, 1897, a windmill and steel tower to provide water at the jail was authorized and on April 14, 1897, Court appointed inspectors for the new jail reported that it had been completed in accordance with the contract specifications, and that so far as security, comfort of prisoners and sanitation are concerned the said jail is sufficient--and the jail was accepted.

The author of the book, "The Town of Fincastle, Virginia," Miss Frances J. Niederer of Hollins College has suggested that the iron work on the jail was the result of the influence of the summer visitors from New Orleans.

It is said that fifteen New Orleans women married representative young men of Fincastle around the turn of the century, and for what bolstering it may give the theory of Miss Niederer, F. D. Bolton was a sub-contractor on the jail and his wife was Miss Aurich from New Orleans.



Old glass-plate photo shows jail...
...shortly after completion in 1897.

Early 1900's

TOWN HALL WHEN A MANS SINGLE

THE CAST INCLUDED:

DR. GRAYBILL
MR. AND MRS. E. M. MILLER
JAMES MEHAFFEY
MISS LILLIE MORGAN
MISS MINNIE ROSS
MRS. DR. ROBERTSON

CINDERELLA IN FLOWERLAND

OR

LOST LADIES SLIPPER

CAST:
PRINCE SUNSHINE--FULTON WAID
SWEETBRIER

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Nov. 30, 1823

Lost: "The subscriber had in his possession a subscription paper for the purpose of building a meeting house for the Society of Baptists in the town of Fincastle, to which there was subscribed upwards of \$400 which paper he lost sometime since." Should it be found, the finder will please deliver it to me.
Signed: Absalom Dempsey

Jan 4, 1823

The following ordinances for the town of Fincastle were published by J. C. Griffin, "president of the Trustees".

Art. 14: That racks of other fixtures for hitching horses on or in the streets to be removed "forthwith" on penalty of a fine of one dollar for every 24 hours they remain.

Art. 15: That a fine of two dollars be imposed upon the owner or driver of any wagon etc., allowed to stand overnight in any of the streets, lanes, or alleys, or any part of the Court House lot or Court Common and that a fine of one dollar be imposed for feeding in any of the aforesaid.

Art. 16: That a fine of one dollar be imposed for suffering chimneys to take fire.

Art. 17: That a fine of not more than \$5.00 be imposed for injuring the enclosure, locks, etc. of the Presbyterian Church of anything appertaining thereto; and a similar fine for hitching horses to the enclosure around said church.

Art. 20: That a fine of ten dollars be imposed for kindling a fire in any street, lot, or lane within said corporation, unless for necessary mechanical purposes.

Art. 21: That a fine of ten dollars shall be imposed on anyone carrying a candle or candles into a stable or stables without the security of a lantern.

Art. 22: That a fine of one dollar be imposed upon any person riding on the pavements now made, or such as shall hereafter be made in said town, and that a fine of two dollars be imposed for driving a wagon or carriage on same.

Jan. 4, 1823 Black list:

"Whereas Thos. Vance has tho't proper to remove

from this part of the country without paying what he owed the printers; this is to remind him of his forgetfulness, and of his breach of promise; and that he may also be reminded of the amount, his account with us stands thus: to his subscription account Herald, commencing with No. 44 Vol. 1-\$3.00 to the tradesmen of the West may know him, we give a short description of his person. He is a mason by trade, and a short, thick-set Dutchman; they would do well to receive payment in advance of him.

Oct. 31, 1823

Announcement of the opening of the Fincastle Academy "for the instruction of young Gentlemen and Ladies where will be taught English, Latin, Greek, Mathematics, Rhetoric, Moral and Natural Philosophy, English Composition, History, Geography with the use of the globes, Spelling, Reading, Writing and Arithmetic"--Young Gentlemen wishing to prepare for college will be thoroughly fitted to enter the most respectable.

Oct. 24, 1823

Allen Jones offered 6 1/4 cents reward for the return of a "runaway apprentice to the blacksmiths business, age 16 or 17 stout, and a little cross-eyed."

Oct. 24, 1823

J. W. Thompson, secretary of Amity Lodge No. 112 of Masons, announced the "funeral obsequies" of Col. Matthew Harvey in Fincastle, Nov. 9 at 12 o'clock.

Nov. 4, 1823

Died-Col. Andrew Hamilton "after a short but severe illness".

Nov. 7, 1823

J. W. Thompson, secretary of Amity Lodge No. 112 of Masons extended an invitation to Liberty, Marshall, Mt. Pleasant, Rockbridge and Greenbrier lodges to attend on Sunday, Dec. 7, "to assist Amity Lodge in paying last duties of respect to the memory of Bros. Andrew Hamilton."

Feb. 13, 1824

Mr. Pitzer, 2nd Lieutenant announced an election would be held in Fincastle on Feb. 23 for the purpose of choosing officers for the Rifle Company.

April 16, 1824

E. Pate, postmaster of Big Lick, advertised unclaimed letters.

Botetourt's All-County Newspaper

THE BOTETOURT COUNTY NEWS and THE FINCASTLE HERALD

Our 101st Year Of Service - Established 1866

Published weekly by the Herald Publishing Corporation at Fincastle and Buchanan, Virginia, and entered as Second Class mail matter at the Post Office in Fincastle, Virginia, 24090, under Act of Congress of March 1, 1897. Subscriptions are \$4.00 per year, in advance.

Letters to the Editor on pertinent topics and in good taste are welcome. They must be signed, although names will be withheld from publication upon request.

Paul E. Fitzgerald

Publishers

Don R. Smith

C. H. Rieley, Editor

Telephone 473-2741

This Special Edition of the Fincastle Herald was prepared for distribution to visitors to Fincastle and those friends and residents of the Town who believe that the heritage here is worthy of recognition and

preservation. The committee preparing this publication consisted of: Mrs. E. N. Camden, Mrs. J. J. Madine, Mrs. M. F. Ring, Mrs. James McDowell, and Mrs. R. D. Blanton, Jr.

Early 1900's

TOWN HALL WHEN A MANS SINGLE

THE CAST INCLUDED:

DR. GRAYBILL
MR. AND MRS. E. M. MILLER
JAMES MEHAFFEY
MISS LILLIE MORGAN
MISS MINNIE ROSS
MRS. DR. ROBERTSON

C. 1900

TOWN HALL THE OPERETTA A MERRY COMPANY

Will be given on April 29 by pupils of Miss Lila Beckley's vocal and instrumental class.

THE CAST INCLUDES:
ELLA CRUSH, MARIE SLICER, MARY E. GODWIN, MARY PECK, AND BESSIE RANDOLPH.

"PROCEEDS OF THIS ENTERTAINMENT, AFTER DEDUCTING NECESSARY EXPENSES, WILL BE USED TOWARD A DEBT CONTRACTED BY THE LADIES AID SOCIETY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH."

(Miss Mary Peck became Professor of History at Longwood College, and Miss Bessie Randolph became Dr. Bessie Randolph-- Pres. of Hollins College.)

Early 1900's

TURN OF THE TIDE or WRECKED-IN-PORT

A NAUTICAL AND TEMPERANCE DRAMA

THE CAST INCLUDED:

J. O. LUSTER
C. C. HEDRICK
C. W. HEDRICK
TOM CARPER
MERCER ROBINSON
JESSIE HEDRICK
HELEN CARPER

CINDERELLA IN FLOWERLAND

or

LOST LADIES SLIPPER

CAST:
PRINCE SUNSHINE--FULTON WAID
SWEETBRIER--LELIA PECK
ROSE--KATHLEEN LUSTER
VIOLET--JOSEPHINE LUNSFORD
SUNBEAMS--ROBBIE DILLON, ROY FELLERS,
F. D. BOLTON, JR., L. CALVERT, HORACE GRAYBILL, JOHN HILTON.

COMING AGAIN THE GREAT DEESTRICT SKULE

HAYTH'S MUSIC HALL

APRIL 12, 1907

IN THE CAST: OMAH HOWELL, MISS LILLIE MORGAN, L. O. PECK, MISS MOLLIE PECK, F. M. HOUSMAN, MISS GRACE GRAYBILL, MISS CARRIE WALTHALL, MRS. J. N. SLICER, M. A. WOODSON, S. B. SMITH, AND DR. MADDOX.

VILLAGE POST OFFICE

GIVEN BY

F.H.S. LITERARY SOCIETY

FEB. 22, 1910

FINCASTLE OPERA HOUSE

CAST INCLUDED: CECIL SLUSSER, FANNIE WAID, MALCOLM PECK, ANTHONY SIMMONS, EMILY MCDOWELL, BILLIE CRUSH, GRACE HOWELL, HASELTINE SLICER, ANNIE HOUSMAN, GORDON PECK, GRACE PLANK, RUBY CAMPER, ROY BOLTON, HELEN HOUSMAN, JAMES MCDOWELL, LULA SLUSSER.

Old Brochure Describes Famous Springs That Made Fincastle Big Resort Center

"These springs are within one-quarter mile of the incorporated limits of the town of Fincastle, which is the county seat and is situated near the centre of Botetourt County, lying in the James River division of the Great Valley of Virginia, with the Blue Ridge mountains on the East and Alleghenies on the West; distinguished alike for its cultured social conditions, salubrious, gentle, health-giving and preserving climate with matchless fertility of soil, showing forth agricultural and grazing interests in unexcelled beauty -all within an entrancingly picturesque region, rich in historic interest and romantic effect.

Fincastle, this pleasant mountain town with 1000 inhabitants is built on an eminence commanding many most beautiful views of the cultivated valleys and densely wooded hills carrying their gentle undulations to the very sides of their wild and rugged mothers, the precipitous storm-beaten and storm-breaking mountains. While to every valley is given its pure and limpid springs, each vale rejoicing in its laughing, rushing cascade, leaping from rock to rock, losing itself in the cold placid pool beneath, ready to begin the long journey to the sea, turning the grand old moss covered wheels of the quaint thatched mills where the farmer's boy idly waits his allowance of yellow meal. Here are such scenes in actual life as only exist elsewhere in the writing of our most famous authors. Time in its onward rush for wealth has left to this locality its former life and ante-bellum days while nature in its lavish gifts has endowed a climate unequalled for the purity, elasticity and tonic properties of its atmosphere which carries balm and healing upon its wings which is particularly grateful to invalids suffering from lung troubles and has sent many visitors rejoicing to their homes after regaling themselves and revelling in its gentle and enticing restorative power. Fincastle will welcome the afflicted, and for their comfort its summer and autumn will hold joint reign beneath its blue sky, the balmy air and andalusian sunshine will woo them back to the fullness and joy of life and health.

Malarial poisoning is unknown-the conditions are all lacking. There is absolute immunity from epidemic diseases while the conditions are all unfavorable to the spread of contagion. Botetourt's free air and water make Fincastle an ideal sanitarium. No town within the springs region of Virginia can boast better advantages for a summer outing, either for health or pleasure, for which such favorable conditions of temperature, the certainty of charming scenic views and pleasant climate both for health and physical comfort can well be relied upon, in a visit here being

Homes In Fincastle Reflect...

(Continued from Page 1)

Streets. It was built of red brick, both its outside walls and partitions.

It has elaborately carved woodwork, mantels, staircases and chair rails. Many of the original panes are still in the windows. Original window sills are sandstone, and some of the plaster is believed to be the original.

This building was constructed by Kyle to be a store and dwelling, as it is once more. Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Bolton reside in the eastern side. The part of it along Church Street is a store operated by R. E. Bolton, Jr.

"Santillane"

Built about 1800, this house stands on a hill just outside of Fincastle. It, too, has many features of beauty-wide planks in the floors, fine woodwork and mantels. It originally had a double-storied porch on the front which was replaced in recent years

profitable both to the body and mind.-The lover of Nature in ideal-untarnished by art, here finds all that could be sought after. To the hunter the adjacent mountains abound in all wild game, from the fleet footed deer to the timid hare, streams with trout, bass, etc.

Of the local objects of interest may be enumerated the famous Natural Bridge and the Peaks of Otter, either conveniently near to visit and return in the same day, if so desired. "Murder Hole," a magnificent and grand work of Nature rivaling in grandeur and surpassing the "Bridge" in awe inspiring wonder. This remarkable phenomenon or freak of nature is an immense depression on the summit of a rock riven and weather beaten hill extending over a hundred feet perpendicularly towards the bowels of the earth, with its ice cold caverns, moss and fern covered, its causeways, galleries and balconies, balustrades of natural rock place on a scale too grand and wild for the work of a human hand, reigns eternal winter in her majesty. "White Rock" would also be well worth a visit, it being a huge mass of boulders, (covered with peculiar moss at certain seasons, white) arising from the crest of the mountain and giving an excellent panorama of the surrounding country for miles upon miles highly cultivated on the one side, the other presenting the lesser ranges

Earlier Times Reported In Old Herald Copies

The following excerpts are taken from copies of the Fincastle Herald.

1904, October 27-Confederate Monument Unveiled Large Attendance-Reunion Confederate Veterans. A program from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. is described, which included bands, choral music, speeches, parades.

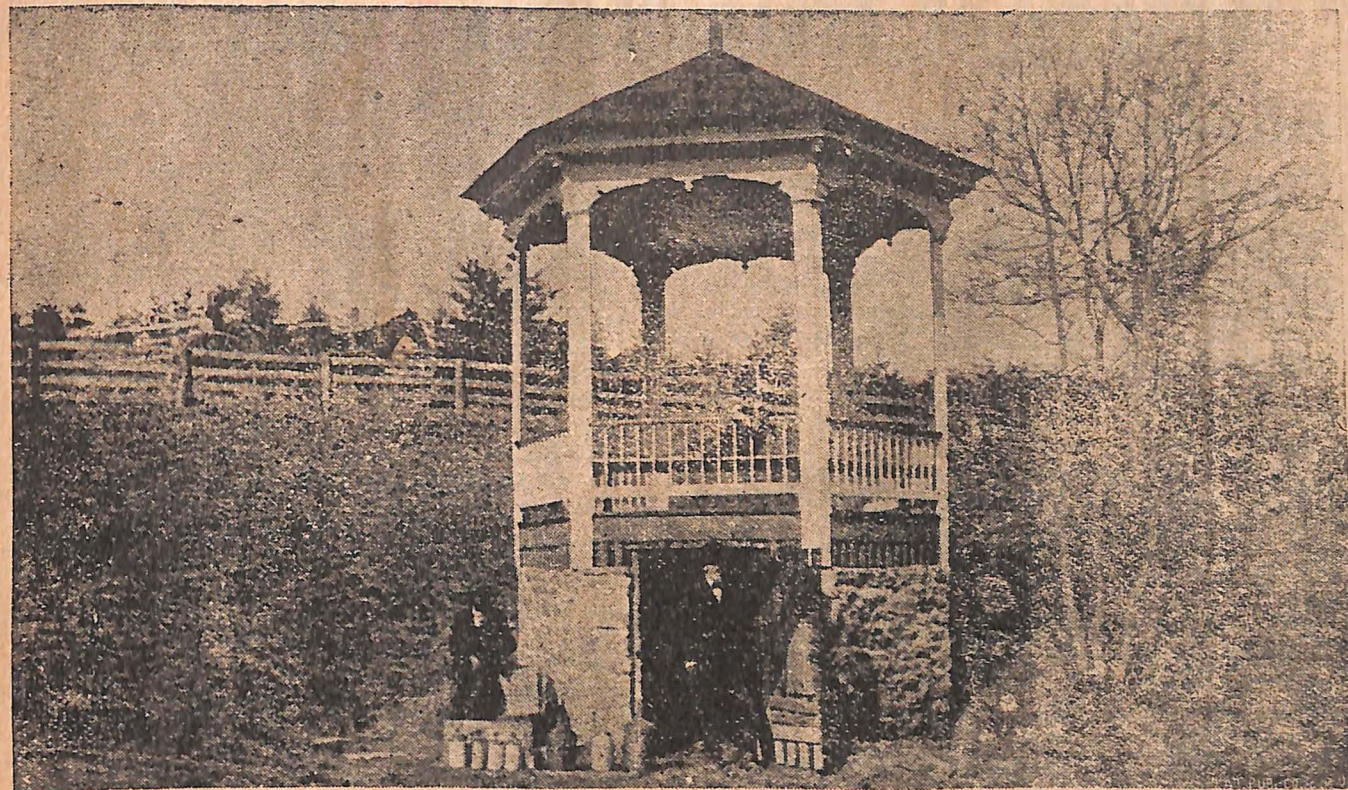
1879-Graduation exercise held in Town Hall. "Prof. Wilson of Connecticut who came to Fincastle for his health" was principal presenting diplomas to a large class. Some of the graduates were: James Luster, Turner McDowell, Robert Housman, French Bolton, Will Glasgow, Bowyer Hayth, Claiborne Godwin, Clarence Beckley, Robert James, Selma Woodson, George Leftwich "(handsome young man)" Bertha and Willie Woodson and Annie and Ella Smith.

1896-Editor of the Herald, C. B. Camper, spoke at a Children's Day Service at Mt. Pleasant. Other speakers were A. A. Woodson representing Dry Run Sunday School, C. B. Camper representing Fincastle Methodist Church, and J. C. Peck representing Mt. Pleasant.

After these speakers, the minister spoke on this subject: "Parents, provoke not your child to wrath, which made a profound impression upon the people. The collection was \$15.00."

1897-destructive fire in Fincastle--After a lengthy description of fire which burned a large section of the main part of town, there was a listing of all losses and this comment: "The fire was the work of an incendiary, as appeared from unmistakable evidences."

1909-Grove Hill Burns--Grove Hill, the old Breckinridge homestead, was destroyed by fire on Sunday



Faded photograph from old brochure shows...

...handsome structure protecting famous spring.

of mountains in their rude and rough state by nature untouched and undefiled by art or war. This locality also boasts its "Flowing" or Intermittent "Spring" with the lovely legend attached. "The wish verified by the flowing of the water or the fond hope lost."

This being a limestone region many wonderful and attractive caves and entrancing waterfalls abound. Fincastle is reached by a double daily line of coaches running to Troutville, six miles distant on the Norfolk and Western R. R. and the same to Springwood, eight miles distant on the James River Division of the Chesapeake and Ohio R. R. also by a bi-weekly stage line to Roanoke city, 18 miles distant, or passengers will be met whenever notice is given.

From testimonial page:

December 1, 1884
Dr. J. F. Grant, who has twice filled the Presidency of the State Medical Society of Tenn., and served as Medical Director of the Army of Tenn. C.S.A. gives the following:

I have carefully examined the analysis of the Lithiated-Ferro-Magnesian Springs Water and have had a practical demonstration of its powers and effects in my own person. ...It surpasses any water of which I have any knowledge, either in this country or Europe. It possesses virtues equal if not superior to any of the famous mineral springs of the world.

Dr. J. B. Amiss who is Chief Surgeon of the B.&O. R.R. and Manager of the Harrisonburg Branch of the World Bi-Chloride of Gold Treatment of the Whiskey Habit says:

Harrisonburg
May 8, 1893

Gentlemen:

I use Lithiated-Ferro-Magnesian in my private practice and also for patients in my Institute for the treatment of the whiskey habit. This water excels any I ever used for any disease, and accomplishes more fully what is claimed for it than any medical agent I have every prescribed. For diseases of the stomach nothing compares with its curative effects.

Gentlemen:

...From the varied ingredients it contains, this water is applicable to treatment of a larger class of cases than perhaps any mineral water in Virginia.

Thomas Miller
Member of Royal College of Surgeons

Fincastle
February 1, 1883
...For dyspepsia and all the disturbances of the Chylopoetic Viscera.

I. R. Godwin, M. D.

Scrapbooks Show Details In Social, Business Activity

Gleanings from scrapbooks owned by W. M. Simmons

Receipt

Received of John Grebill the sum of four pounds with expenses for drillmaster for the years 1783 and 1784.

April 12, 1785
Phillip Scholl
Collector

Deed- ...93 poles of land on North Side of Main St. Wm. Anderson
Sept. 20, 1796

1818 Receipt-For the estate of John Graybill, deceased-2 gals of brandy furnished at sale of the deceased-2.67.

Sol Graybill

School in Farmville (Longwood).

Miss Pearl Bowyer is teaching this term in the Cloverdale School.

Miss Grace Plank is teaching in the Eagle Rock Graded School.

Miss Helen Housman is attending the State Normal School at Harrisonburg (Madison).

Miss Annie Housman is attending Hollins, this being her third year there.

Mr. Billy Crush is attending National College in Raonoke.

Homes In Fincastle Reflect...

(Continued from Page 1)

Streets. It was built of red brick, both its outside walls and partitions.

It has elaborately carved woodwork, mantels, stair-cases and chair rails. Many of the original panes are still in the windows. Original window sills are sandstone, and some of the plaster is believed to be the original.

This building was constructed by Kyle to be a store and dwelling, as it is once more. Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Bolton reside in the eastern side. The part of it along Church Street is a store operated by R. E. Bolton, Jr.

"Santillane"

Built about 1800, this house stands on a hill just outside of Fincastle. It, too, has many features of beauty—wide planks in the floors, fine woodwork and mantels. It originally had a double-storied porch on the front which was replaced in recent years by a "columned portico."

Santillane was originally the home of the Hancocks; the daughter Judith married William Clark, of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

In more recent times, Weir Mitchell, the poet and his son Langdon Mitchell boarded there while vacationing in Fincastle while the house was owned by Miss Annie Spencer.

Santillane is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Stoner. Mr. Stoner was until his retirement, Clerk of the County. He is the author of "A Seed Bed of the Republic, Early Botetourt," published in 1962.

1869

DR. C. B. F. JANKINS

(DENTAL ROOMS AT HIS RESIDENCE ON METHODIST ST., FINCASTLE)

INSERTS

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

IN ALL THE MODERN AND IMPROVED STYLES... WITH AS LITTLE PAIN TO THE PATIENT AS POSSIBLE.

1871

HAZLETT KYLE

CABINET-MAKER AND UNDERTAKER

AT

Rudd's OLD STAND

AMSTERDAM, VA.

ALL BUSINESS IN THE UNDERTAKERS LINE PROMPTLY DONE AND COFFINS FURNISHED TO ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTY.

PRODUCE OF ALL KINDS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE FOR WORK AT MARKET PRICES.

pleasant climate both for health and physical comfort can well be relied upon, in a visit here being... For dyspepsia and all the disturbances of the Chylopoetic Viscera.

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Sol Graybill

News item-1869
Hollins Institute

The session of this institution commenced Monday, and prospects are good for a large Southern patronage. Young ladies from 17 states are already present.

Washington College opened on Thursday the 16th instant...A judicious professor has expressed the opinion that the number this session will reach 400.

News item from Fincastle Democrat, November 11, 1846:

"An effort is being made to raise funds for placing a town clock in the cupola of the Court House. Three hundred and fifty dollars will get one of the latest and most approved kind and enough left to pay freight and put it up."

1913-The Weekly Calendar-Fincastle Baptist Church Publication.

Miss Rebekah Peck is teaching at the State Normal

1879

WESTERN HOTEL BAR

WINES, WHISKEY, LIQUORS, AND BEER-

MY NAME IS CASH--NO PERSON WILL FALL OUT WITH ME FOR TRYING TO SELL FOR CASH.

W. W. CASH

1896-Editor of the Herald, C. B. Camper, spoke at a Children's Day Service at Mt. Pleasant. Other speakers were A. A. Woodson representing Dry Run Sunday School, C. B. Camper representing Fincastle Methodist Church, and J. C. Peck representing Mt. Pleasant.

After these speakers, the minister spoke on this subject: "Parents, provoke not your child to wrath," which made a profound impression upon the people. The collection was \$15.00."

1897-destructive fire in Fincastle--After a lengthy description of fire which burned a large section of the main part of town, there was a listing of all losses and this comment: "The fire was the work of an incendiary, as appeared from unmistakable evidences."

1909-Grove Hill Burns--Grove Hill, the old Breckinridge homestead, was destroyed by fire on Sunday 24th instant..Grove Hill was erected by James Breckinridge in 1795 at a cost of about \$20,000--one of the most substantially built residences in this section of the state. Grove Hill was the seat of hospitality where many distinguished people were entertained including Jefferson, Monroe, and Madison.

1919-The Young Ladies of the Town will give a leap Year party at Hayth's Hotel--Among those present, Miss Grace Plank, Miss Ruth Lunsford, Miss Helen Housman, Miss Phoebe Brugh.

1911-Mr. Oswald Flint and Mrs. Melanie Holt Steinhouser of Galveston were married June 9. Mrs. Flint, daughter of Charles Holt of Galveston is a handsome young woman and deservedly popular in Fincastle where she has spent a number of summers. (Miss Melanie was the last of the Southern Visitors; she continued to return to the hotel each summer as long as it was in operation. After the hotel closed, she continued to visit Virginia staying with Miss Rebekah Peck and at the Patrick Henry Hotel in Roanoke.

1912-Mrs. E. B. Hayth entertained the U.D.C. on Feb. 7 at 4 o'clock. The next meeting was held at "Ridgely" (now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Fitzgerald) with Miss Mary Godwin.

1915-Mrs. Flint entertains--The largest social function of the season was a card part at Hayth's Hotel given by Mrs. Melanie Flint.

The walls of the ballroom were banked with evergreens and flowers. Miniature Japanese lanterns gave color to the festive occasion.

Among those present: Miss Emma Cary Breckinridge, T. K. Peck, Mr. and Mrs. Turner McDowell, Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Walshe, Mr. and Mrs. James Ridout, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Hayth, Dr. and Mrs. I. R. Godwin and daughters Nan and Mary Ed.

1869

FINCASTLE WOOL ROLL CARDING MACHINES

ARE NOW IN GOOD RUNNING ORDER AND PREPARED TO DO WORK WITH NEATNESS AND DISPATCH.

M. T. AMMEN & CO.

MAY 20, 1869

J. W. SIMMONS, DRUGGIST,

Druggists' Sundries, Perfumery, Tobacco and Cigars,

Prescriptions Carefully Compounded.

MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

STATIONERY.

NIGHT BELL ANSWER.

Phone No. 19.

Fincastle

Virginia.

History of Fincastle Churches Spans Nearly 200 Years

Fincastle Presbyterian Church

The ground on which this church was built was on an original grant from the English Crown to Israel Christian. The building was constructed prior to 1770 and was used by the Church of England. Following the period of the Revolutionary War and the dissolution of the Church of England in America, the church came into the use and possession of the Presbyterian congregation.

The church was renovated in 1840. The entrance was changed from the east to the south side and the columns and steeple were added.

Until 1958 the church was heated by wood stoves which are being preserved because of their historical value. The Communion Service was a gift from the Elders in 1853 and is currently displayed.

In front of the church is one of the original town lamps.

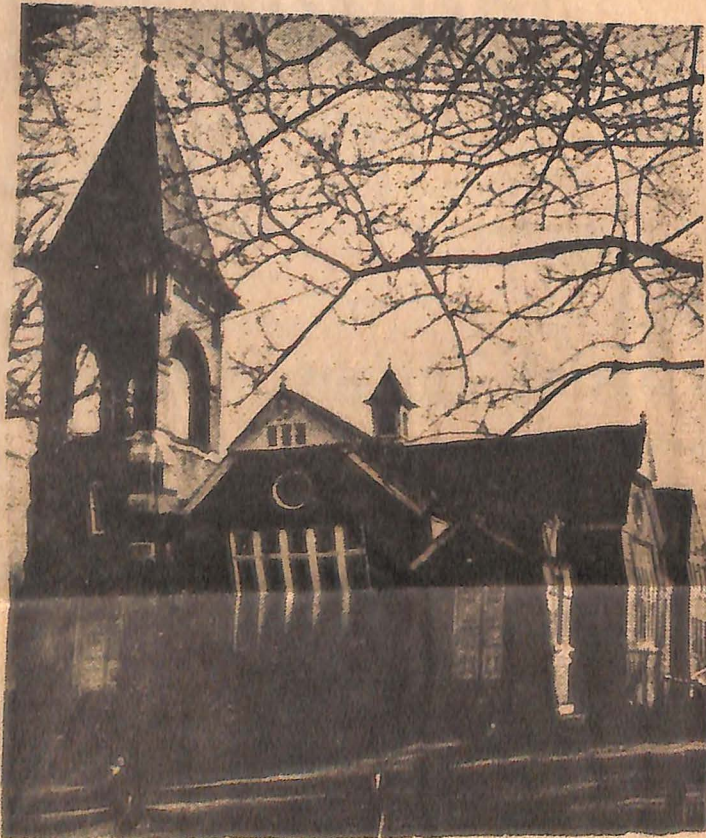
In the grounds surrounding the church may be seen graves that date back to 1795.

The Educational Building, built in 1958, was constructed from brick that came from the old Union Church on the Trinity Road.

In June 1845, Andrew Jackson died at his home, The Hermitage, in Nashville, Tenn. The people of Botetourt County, to show their respect for the dead President, held a public funeral.

The procession which was both civil and military was in command of Col. Aunspaugh who, though a Whig, was Postmaster in Fincastle. The procession was headed by James McDowell, Jr. who led a horse whose empty saddle suggested the active military career of the great hero. They marched in solemn file through the principal streets and into the Presbyterian Church, where the funeral sermon was preached. The congregation then assembled around a grave in the churchyard where the honors of war were paid the dead hero by firing a military salute over a grave.

There is also a story that has been handed down about the three slaves that were charged with murder, tried in the local court and found guilty. They were taken from the Court Room to the Presbyterian Church where they were seated on the front row and their funeral preached. They were then taken out and hanged. The front left side of the Churchyard where there



Fincastle Baptist Church

support. The Church and its land gradually came under Presbyterian influence until the former Anglican Church building housed the present Fincastle Presbyterian Church.

The Indian menace and the difficulty in obtaining qualified clergymen also plagued the young church's early days, but during the interval of the closing of the Church of England until 1837, services were held at Grove Hill by visiting clergy.

In that year, however, a fresh start was made when the Vestry bought land on the west side of Roanoke Street and began the construction of the present St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

When the Church of England (present Presbyterian Church) was taken over by the Presbyterians, the Communion Service was carried over by the Episcopalians to the new church. The handsome George III service was given to the Botetourt Parish when the county was organized by Lord Botetourt, this being customary in that day. Visitors to St. Mark's will be interested in seeing the service, which is the only thing salvaged from colonial properties.

The Educational Building was finished in 1966, being constructed from old bricks. It is presently used for TAP classes as well as a Sunday School Building.



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Fincastle Methodist Church

The Methodist Episcopal Church was first formally organized at a conference of Methodist ministers called for that purpose in Baltimore, Md., on Dec. 25, 1784.

The Botetourt Circuit was formed in 1789. Bishop Francis Asbury was closely associated with the Fincastle Church. In his journal from 1795-1802 he records; "while at Edward Mitchell's, drew a plan for a house 40 feet long and 30 feet wide and two stories high-to be built in Fincastle---this like many more of my good designs may come to naught."

The deed conveying the land on which the first church stood and being the same land on which the present church stands was recorded in July, 1803. The present building was erected in 1840, and is similar to the first building.

Fincastle Baptist Church

The Fincastle Baptist Church was organized on the 6th day of August 1831 by Absalom C. Dempsey. There were fifteen members. A. C. Dempsey had been pastor of the Mill Creek Baptist Church--a position he held for more than fifty years.

Under his efforts "a few humble brethren were



Fincastle Methodist Church

enlisted in the project of forming a church in Fincastle." He remained as pastor of this church until 1861.

The first church building was on Main Street on the lot now owned by Mrs. M. A. Terry. It was rectangular in shape, with brick walls, white stone and green wood trim. The entrance was on the east side; there were two doors and over each a small



Fincastle Presbyterian Church

window. It had a bell cupola.

The present Baptist Church was dedicated June 13, 1896. The Educational Building was completed in 1923.

A silver communion service belonging to the first church is still in existence.

First Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church is situated on the eastern slope of Academy Hill. It is said that a group of slaves made up the congregation of the first building on this site, which was a wooden building. It was destroyed by a windstorm. Another wooden building was constructed, but was destroyed by fire.

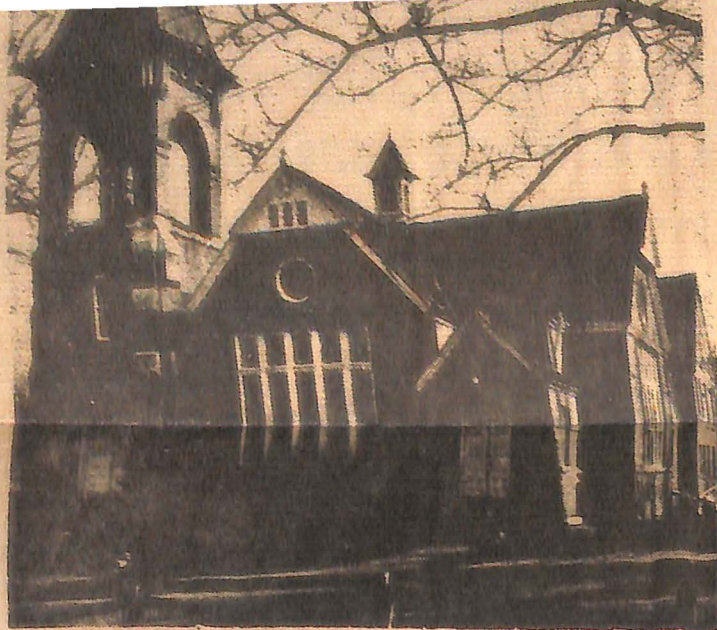
The present building made of brick was built during the latter part of the last century.

For awhile school was held on the ground floor, then the School Board moved the school to, first the Poague House, presently the home of Miss Kathleen Fairfax and then to the Spurlock Home and finally to a two story building on Academy Hill.

The bricks in the Church building are said to be handmade.

1869

**NEVER DESPAIR!!
NOTHING
WITHOUT LABOR
IN GOD'S HAND**



Fincastle Baptist Church



Baptist Church 1832-1896

are no marked graves is said to be filled with graves of fallen soldiers of the Revolutionary War. It was believed that on New Year's Eve, the bugler of these lost men would rise and blow TAPS for his comrades.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Although St. Marks, built in 1837, is one of the County's oldest landmarks, the history of the Episcopal Church in the Fincastle area dates back to pre-Revolutionary times.

On Nov. 15, 1771, the Justices of Botetourt County conveyed an acre of land to the Vestry of Botetourt Parish to be used for the erection of a church and the establishment of a cemetery. With the coming of the Revolution, came the disestablishment of the Anglican Churches, with its withdrawal of government



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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The deed conveying the land on which the first church stood and being the same land on which the present church stands was recorded in July, 1803. The present building was erected in 1840, and is similar to the first building.

The four chairs in the sanctuary were made in 1845 by Daniel Spangler, a Spaniard who owned a chair factory in Fincastle. The two black chairs were always kept on each side of the Amen corner and used by the oldest couple belonging to the church.

Hayth Hotel Site Had Tavern As Early As 1820

Records show that as early as 1820 a tavern was operated on this site by William Craft. In 1878 W. B. Hayth bought the property and converted it into a 30-bed hotel.

With the development of the "Lithiated-Ferro-Magnesian" Springs just east of town the hotel took on new life.

Guests from New Orleans, Galveston, Mobile and other southern cities came to avoid the southern summers and to enjoy the health-giving waters of the mineral springs.

(Many present day inhabitants of the town are descendants of those southern guests who chose to make Fincastle their permanent home.)

In 1882 Hayth acquired the Western Hotel and ran it as an annex.

In 1894 additions were made to the main hotel so that it could accomodate 100 guests. Not only

Fincastle Court House...

(Continued from Page 1)

At the rear of this court building were brick houses containing offices for the local attorneys, and housing some of the county officials. Among these buildings, one is yet standing which was the office of Andrew Hamilton who was using it as his law office in 1812.

This is now being restored for use as a museum for the collection and exhibition of old items indigenous to Botetourt County or of particular interest to its citizens.

rectang and green wood trim. The entrance was on the east side; there were two doors and over each a small



First Baptist Church

the southern guests filled these rooms, but also the lawyers, juries and others connected with the Court. The 1894 remodeling included two balconies which ran the entire length and breadth of the building.

Opening on the balconies of the first floor was a milliners shop, a photographers studio, a sample room for salesmen, the lobby, several parlors and bedrooms.

On the north side, on the ground floor was a large ballroom which was the scene of costume balls, musicales and dances.

Rates in the 1880's were \$25.00 per month-children at half price-"Special rates for females and persons who do not occupy separate rooms."

Many of the hotel registers which are owned by local collectors contain a running story of local history. It is easy to determine when the court was in session, and to tell when the southern season arrived. Comments are scattered through the books, put there, no doubt, by the last proprietor, E. B. Hayth, who was a philosopher as well as an innkeeper.

December 15, 1905-"First snow of winter-no coon hunting tonight."

July 4, 1906-"Hurrah! for America! Half-brother to the world."

April 4, 1907- 40 dinners paid "This dinner was given to the "Vets" by the U.D.C. Fincastle Chapter."

July 26, 1907-Mrs. Chas. Holt-Galveston, Texas. Mrs. Melanie Steinhouser, Galveston, Texas.

December 31, 1907-

"Stores up today in memory's vault, We leave 365 golden days Did we improve them And shall it be said, Well Done?"

1869

F. H. MAYS

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
FINCASTLE, VIRGINIA

OFFICE IN THE OLD
COUNTY COURT
CLERK'S OFFICE

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1869

**NEVER DESPAIR!!
NOTHING
WITHOUT LABOR
JNO. E. CURD**

CONSTABLE, GENERAL CLAIM AGENT AND
AUCTIONEER, PROSECUTES ALL MAIL AND
OTHER CLAIMS AGAINST THE U.S.

1878

1933

Why Not Take

DINNER

Today and During Court at
HAYTH'S HOTEL

NOTICE: A Full Meal, Regular Dinner Cooked and Served After the Old Country Style, A Tempting Menu of Two Meats, Five Vegetables, Butter and Bread, Tea, Coffee and Milk. Choice of Pleasing Deserts. "In Court Day Parlance: Square Meal," All You Can Eat For

50c.

Bowyer Hayth, Owner and Proprietor.

A Souvenir of Fincastle, Va.

HISTORICAL.

It is generally understood by those who have inquired into the matter, that Botetourt County was named after Lord Botetourt, who was Sir Norborne Berkeley, last of the barons of Botetourt and Governor of Virginia 1770, 6 years before the declaration of American independence. The county was formed under the following circumstances:

"On the 10th day of Nov. 1769, the House of Burgesses, assembled in Williamsburg, passed an act dividing the county and parish of Augusta, by reason of the great extent thereof, and cutting off from it another county to be known as Botetourt."

Botetourt then included all of South West Va. and a part of Kentucky and Tennessee, and remained in possession of all that territory until 1772. On the same date, Nov. 10, 1769, an act was passed "exempting all the people of Botetourt County who had settled on the waters of the Mississippi from taxes for building Court House and Jail, on account of their great distance from the county seat." On the 12th day of Feb., 1772, "Fincastle County" was formed by cutting off from Botetourt a large part of her Southwest corner. Four years later the counties of Kentucky, Montgomery and Washington were formed and Fincastle County became extinct. The town of Fincastle had its birth Feb. 12, 1772. Isreal Christian, of the County of Botetourt, formerly of Mobile, Ala., donated 40 acres to the "General Assembly" for the use of the county on which to erect a Court House and Prison. Fincastle is the oldest English speaking town West of the Blue Ridge Mountains and South of the Mason and Dixon Line.

Open All Hours for Tourists. Compliments Hayth's Hotel

1908

E. M. MILLER

PACKER

OF

SANTILLANE BRAND

TOMATOES

FINCASTLE, VA.

YOUNG LADIES BEWARE

OF THE INJURIOUS EFFECTS OF FACE
POWDERS AND WASHES...

IF YOU WOULD HAVE A FRESH HEALTHY
AND YOUTHFUL APPEARANCE

HEMBOLD'S EXTRACT SARSAPARILLA

DAR Marks Grave Of Henry Kin

A granite footstone was placed at the grave of Maria Antoinette Henry Hambrick in the old City Cemetery on Tazewell Avenue yesterday in a Memorial Day ceremony sponsored by the Margaret Lynn Lewis chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

The late Mrs. Hambrick was a granddaughter of Patrick Henry and taught school in Roanoke until she retired. She died in 1900.

She was the daughter of Alexander Spotteswood Henry and Paulina Cabell and was born in 1838. After the Civil War, when her family like many in the South suffered great financial loss, she decided to come to Roanoke, then a young railroad town, and open a primary school.

It operated successfully near First Street and Center Avenue, NW, until the opening of public schools in Roanoke. Miss Henry married A. L. Hambrick while in Roanoke.

She was named an honorary

member of the Margaret Lynn Lewis DAR at its first meeting in February, 1894, and served as historian and chaplain.

In 1903, the chapter erected

Patriot's Granddaughter Taught Here

a marble headstone on her grave. Mrs. Robert Churchill, chapter regent, presided at yesterday's ceremonies; Miss Lucy Wingfield read a sketch of Mrs. Hambrick's life; and a wreath was placed on the grave.