

THE WACHOVIA TRACT

Volume 13, Number 2: Spring 2014

Double Issue

Volume 14, Number 1: Autumn 2014

Wachovia Historical Society

119th annual meeting

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 21, 2014

(music prelude at 7 p.m.)

at Old Salem Visitor Center
on Old Salem Road in historic Old Salem

FREE: members & public welcome

“Driving Old Dixie Down:
Stoneman’s Raid Comes to Salem”

presented by author/historian
Chris J. Hartley

In the spring of 1865, Federal Maj. Gen. George Stoneman launched a cavalry raid deep into the heart of the Confederacy. For two long months, Stoneman’s cavalry rode across six southern states, fighting fierce skirmishes and destroying massive amounts of supplies and facilities. It went on to become one of the longest raids in U.S. military history.



What is the old Salem Boys School, the first museum home of the Wachovia Historical Society, doing here? Come to the Society’s 119th annual meeting and find out.

Annual meeting is a lively occasion

An enthusiastic crowd of about 160 members and guests filled the Old Salem Visitor Center last October 22, 2013, for the 118th annual meeting of the Wachovia Historical Society.

President Thomas W. Williams opened the meeting and commented on the activities of the Society. Financial grants were made to R. J. Reynolds High School for a student tour; to Historic Bethabara Park for assistance reconstructing the palisade; and to Old Salem Museums & Gardens for the cost of having Old Salem and St. Philips Church included on the North Carolina Civil War Trails program and for funds to assist with re-vamping the 1904 fire pumper. The pumper was part of the Winston-Salem Consolidation Centennial Parade and since then has been displayed in the Old Salem Visitor Center.

Williams introduced new members of the Society's Board of Directors: Dr. Eugene W. Adcock, Paul W. Armfield, and W. Kirk Sanders with Aurelia Gray Eller filling the term of the late Rev. Dr. Cedric Rodney. The meeting then elected Johnnie P. Pearson and S. Hayes Wauford to the Board. Officers for 2014 were announced: Williams continuing as president; the Rt. Rev. Lane A. Sapp, vice president; R. Aubrey Smith, secretary; Richard W. Starbuck, treasurer. Outgoing Board members Frederick P. Spach and the Rt. Rev. Graham H. Rights were thanked for their services.

Guest speaker Larry E. Tise, the Orville and Wilbur Wright Distinguished Professor of History at East Carolina University, gave a lively and thought provoking oration on "Detecting the Curious Wachovia Factor in our Past." Tise laid out six



Flanked by presenter Daniel Crews and her husband Paul Knouse, Nola Reed Knouse displays her Archie K. Davis Award.

remarkable aspects about Wachovia: 1) It came into existence through an extraordinary beginning involving Lord Granville, a Lord Proprietor of North Carolina; Count Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf; Bishop Augustus Gottlieb Spangenberg; and James Hutton, a London bookseller and secretary of the Unitas Fratrum in England. 2) It was established as a proprietary within a proprietary. Because the Moravian Church was not incorporated, Wachovia was deeded to James Hutton as trustee for the Church. 3) Because it was a proprietary it was mapped in detail. 4) During the American Revolution the Moravians feared the new state government would not honor the deeds to their land. Since they were pacifists and did not take oaths, the Moravians would not join the American Army nor swear an oath of loyalty. As a friend of both King George III and Benjamin Franklin, it
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A tour of the past that made the future

Saturday, October 26, 2013, was a beautiful warm fall day. A group of enthusiastic folks met at the Visitor Center of Old Salem Museum & Gardens, and after enjoying hot coffee and donuts boarded the bus for an exciting 2013 tour presented by the Wachovia Historical Society in association with Old Salem Museums & Gardens. Entitled “Ride the Rails,” it was a tour of Winston-Salem’s historic streetcar routes with stops at significant sites of the “trolley car” era.

After leaving the Visitor Center, we headed north on the Main Street trolley route. Our first stop was at the Pepper Building, built in 1928. There we were met by historical architect and Society member David Gall, who gave us a tour of the building and told us of plans for it. The Pepper Building is to be converted into apartments with an upscale restaurant planned for the first floor. Next we continued on the north trolley car route and stopped at the Brown Rogers Dixson Building. Here we were updated on its future, which includes the Mast General Store opening in 2015 and some upscale apartments.

Our next stop was on the western trolley route at the Nissen Building. When it opened in 1927, it was the tallest building in Winston-Salem, surpassing the height of the old Wachovia Building. The Nissen Building was supposedly the first air conditioned building in the southeast and housed offices, a bank, and shops. One of the highlights of our tour was a trip to the top of the Nissen Building. There we had great views of Pilot Mountain, the

Sauratown Mountains, and much of Winston-Salem. The pool atop the Nissen Building was also a highlight for many. The Nissen family lived on the 18th floor until 1954. Now the Nissen Building is one of Winston-Salem’s premier living places, fully occupied with a waiting list.

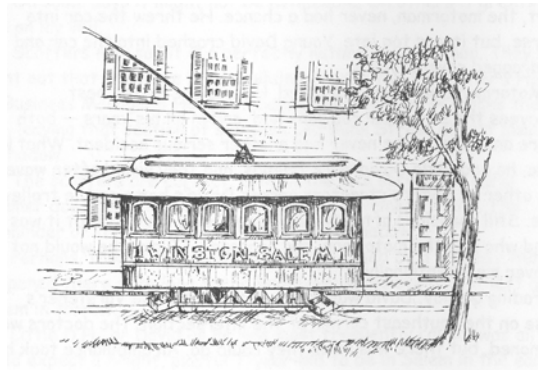
We continued now on the western trolley route past Hanes Park to Reynolds High School and then returned to Brookstown Inn, where we had a delicious lunch and were given booklets about the history of the inn and the influence the Fries family, devout Moravians, had on

the industrial development of Winston-Salem. Their contributions in textiles, hydroelectric power for factories, streetcars, street lighting, construction, and transportation provided much of the groundwork for Winston-Salem’s tobacco and textile industrialization.

After lunch, we followed the southern trolley-car route first stopping in the Washington Park neighborhood. Washington Park and West End were designed by Jacob Ludlow and were neighborhoods where some of Winston-Salem’s most prominent citizens lived. In Washington Park, we saw the Henry Fries home and other beautiful stately houses, and stopped at Washington Park itself for a brief visit to the probable spot where there was once a lake for swimming and ice skating.

We continued on the southern trolley route to the Sprague Street Shell station, which we had a chance to tour. It was built by Quality Oil and is a

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Trolley car tour

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good example of architecture of the time designed to attract the attention of motorists.

Our next stop was a highlight for many on the tour, the quarry near Reynolds Park. Deep, steep-sided, and gorgeous, the quarry holds a beautiful blue pool supplied from underground. In fact, the quarry was closed because the water could not be pumped out fast enough. Now the pool is home to freshwater jellyfish and fish. The trip to the bottom of the quarry was long and beautiful every step of

the way. Plans are in the works to develop the quarry into a park.

Our final stop was the 1926 Union Station, which had its last passenger train come through in 1970. We toured the facility and heard and read about its history. Plans are now being developed for its use, possibly as a part of future streetcar or light rail use.

This was another wonderful tour, leaving us with an even greater appreciation of our past and insight into our future. At the end of the tour, folks said, “This was great, one of the best ever. We can’t wait for the next one.” —H. Lester Morris

From the President, 2014

On July 4, 1783, the citizens of Wachovia celebrated the independence of our nation in what was the earliest documented observance of the day. Among the events in Salem was a performance of *Freudenpsalm*, or *Psalm of Joy*, compiled by Moravian composer Johann Friedrich Peter.

On July 4, 2014, *Psalm of Joy* was performed once more in Home Moravian Church by the Moramus Chorale and Orchestra. Sung in German to replicate the 1783 performance, this music thrilled the large audience present in the church sanctuary.

The Wachovia Historical Society was pleased to co-sponsor this concert with Old Salem Museums & Gardens and the Moravian Music Foundation. This is another example of our commitment to the presentation, interpretation, and dissemination of the history of Wachovia and surrounding North Carolina.

The Board of Directors is grateful for your support, which funds the work of the Society.

Thomas W. Williams, Jr.

Society’s annual meeting

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was natural that James Hutton ask Franklin to intercede for the Moravians, preserving Wachovia from being seized by the Revolutionary state government. 5) Wachovia was a microcosm of America with a growing population and businesses being started. 6) Wachovia is the footprint and glue of the Winston-Salem community.

The Society’s 118th annual meeting concluded with the presentation of the Archie K. Davis Award to the Rev. Dr. Nola Reed Knouse, director of the Moravian Music Foundation. The Davis Award is presented by the Society to an individual for outstanding contributions and devotion to the history of our region, state, and nation, enriching appreciation of our heritage.

In making this year’s presentation, the Rev. Dr. C. Daniel Crews, himself a Davis Award recipient, stated that while Nola Knouse is best known for her work in Moravian music, she has also rendered great service in interpreting the Moravian historical and theological heritage, and is a living embodiment of the ideals upon which Wachovia was founded.

Members of the Wachovia Historical Society, August 31, 2014

As of August 31, 2014, the end of its fiscal year 2013-14, the Wachovia Historical Society had 79 life members, four Bethabara Associates members, 29 Committee of 1895 members, 26 Salem Guild members, 108 Family, Individual, and Senior members, six nonprofit and commercial/professional members, and one student member for a total of 253 membership units. It is only through your support that this wonderful organization continues. We thank all of you for your membership, and we look forward to many years of adventures in history together.

Life Members

(The Life Member category was discontinued in 1996. Many of our Life Members further support the Wachovia Historical Society with annual contributions, for which we are deeply grateful.)

Contributing Life Members

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Mrs. Jane F. Gray
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(\$250-\$499)

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Jimmie & Louise Snyder
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas W. Williams, Jr.
Mrs. Ann Bondurant Young

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(Year of the Society's Inception)
(\$100-\$249)

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& Martha C. Plyler
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Fearnbach History Services, Inc.
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(\$50-\$99)

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Betsy & David Bombick
Doris & Phil Bostian
Dr. & Mrs. Edwyn T. Bowen
Max & Margaret Brady
Robert & Sue Brehme
Hallene L. Brindle
Clarence & Mina Brown
Mr. Rodney C. Brown
Mr. Seth B. Brown

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Wachovia Historical Society
P.O. Box 20803
Winston-Salem, NC 27120-0803

Society Members

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Bette W. Glance
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Bethania Historical Association
Town of Bethania
Allen County, Ohio, Public Library
Historic Bethabara Park
Museum of Early Southern
Decorative Arts
Old Salem Museums & Gardens

Student

Miss Victoria Rose Starbuck

In honor of...

Dr. Eugene W. Adcock III
John & Susan Mickey