CIVIL WAR VETERANS MEMORIALIZED AT WARE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Walking tour guide to Civil War veteran gravestones in Ware Episcopal Church Cemetery, Gloucester, Virginia. Lot numbers are in brackets. See the page titled “Plan of the Cemetery” on this web site to help locate lots, and start within the churchyard near the south gate. After passing through the gates and visiting the Taliaferro family lots straight ahead and to your left, proceed clockwise around the churchyard wall to the first curve in the cemetery road, and then return to the west gate of the wall.

Maj. Thomas Buckner Armistead II [churchyard]
b.1832, d. 1911, m. Mary Jane Walthall
 Troop A 5th Va. Cav C. S. A.
 Troop D 24th Va. Cav C. S. A.

“Report of Grave Marking Committee of the Sally Tomkins Chapter U.D.C. 1929: as there were so few graves to be marked at Ware Church, Ware District, it was proposed by your Chairman that we eliminate memorial services on this occasion. The Rector, Mr. R. A. Magill, kindly suggesting that a notice of graves marked be read at the regular church service, and also placed on Church bulletin for further reference. Those graves marked at Ware Church as follows: Dr. McRae Washington and Thomas Buckner Armistead. Mrs. B. T. Hart captain of District.” [Reminiscences, p. 135]

Major Armistead served in Gen. Stuart’s Cavalry.
Company D was commanded by Dr. Thomas C. Clopton.

Capt. Junius B. Brown [churchyard]
b. 1830, d. 1878, m. Emily Catherine Roane
s/o William Burnet (Claiborne) Brown & Louisa A. Booth

CAPT.
Co. A
5. VA. CAV.
61 - 65

Junius Brutus Browne, promoted to Captain and Company commander in December, 1862. A farmer near Marlfield, and after the war, a sheriff of Gloucester. Lived for a time at Roaring Springs, and honored in the Gloucester Court House “Hall of Fame” (portraits of honored residents).

Son of William Burnet (Claiborne) Browne of King William County, and a descendant of Col. William Browne and Margaret Burnet, also Bishop Gilbert Burnet, Robert “King” Carter, Betty Landon, and Augustine Claiborne.

Married Emily Catherine Roane, daughter of Major Benjamin Roane and Matilda Ann Taliaferro, daughter of James Baytop Taliaferro of Roaring Springs and Catherine Booth, daughter of George Booth of Poropotank.

Photo of “John Brown” from the Gloucester portraits of honored residents.
Gen. William Booth Taliaferro, of Dunham Massie [82]

b. 1822, d. 1898, m. Sally Lyons.
s/o Warner Throckmorton Taliaferro & Frances Amanda Booth

Major U.S. Mexican War
Major Gen C.S.A.
Soldier Statesman
Jurist Scholar
Grand Master Masons
in Virginia

General Taliaferro served in the Mexican-American War before commanding the Virginia State Militia at the start of the Civil War, becoming a brigade commander and then a division commander under Gen. Stonewall Jackson. He was seriously injured at Groveton, leading up to the Second Manassas (Second Bull Run) in 1862, but returned to the field by the time of the Battle of Fredericksburg. Taliaferro later had command over the district of Savannah, Eastern Florida, and the State of South Carolina.

Before and after the War, Taliaferro served in the state legislature. After the War, he was a judge and on the boards of William & Mary and VMI.


Capt. John Newstead Tabb [102B]

b. 1845, d. 1920, m. Cynthia Claxton Tabb,
daughter of Dr Henry Wythe Tabb and Ellen Adams Foster.
s/o John Henry Tabb & Margaret Adams.

Captain, Co. A, S VA Cav, CSA

John Newstead Tabb was born at “Elmington,” educated in private schools and VMI, and was a member of the Virginia State legislature in 1891-92, 1893-94, 1895-96, and 1912. He was also a Gloucester Commissioner of the Revenue, and was named an Honored Gloucester Resident.

Photo from the Gloucester portraits of honored residents.
Dr. Philip Alexander Taliaferro, of Burgh Westra [84]

b. 1827, d. 1901, m. Susan Lewis McCandlish
s/o Warner Throckmorton Taliaferro & Leah Seddon
doctor, CSA

Step-brother of William Booth Taliaferro. Was an aide-de-camp for Stonewall Jackson and then-Major William Booth Taliaferro, but “upon learning that Gloucester County (then occupied by Union troops) lacked a physician, he obtained a special waiver that allowed him to return home and resume the practice of medicine. Dr. Taliaferro spent the remainder of the war treating Gloucester patients and used Burgh Westra as a hospital.” [McCartney, p. 170]

Maj. Thomas Seddon Taliaferro, of Lowland Cottage [84]

b. 1833, d. 1918, m. Harriotte Hopkins Lee
s/o Warner Throckmorton Taliaferro & Leah Seddon
Major, CSA
Member of the General Assembly of Virginia

Step-brother of William Booth Taliaferro. Served in the 21st Regiment, Virginia Militia. He was a lawyer and served as a judge advocate for Jackson's Division early on and stayed for the length of the War. His wife was a descendant of Richard Henry Lee.

Photo from the 1893 Page-Puller Camp group photo.

Maj. William Kennon Perrin, of Goshen [99]

b. 1834, d. 1904, m. Lucy Wellford Jones
s/o William Kennon Perrin & Sarah Tayloe Wormley
Co. F. 26th Regt. Va. INF


Local boy James H. Fleming wrote, “The company I wanted to join was made up from the “Gloucester Invincibles,” an old company my father belonged to when he was a boy, now known as “Company F, 26th Virginia Regiment,” commanded by Capt. Willie K. Perrin. This company was made up from sons of the “invincibles,” their relatives and neighbors of that part of the country... Most of our company being “Guinea-man” (from the lower part of Gloucester County), knew what to do when they saw a stream or pond of water. If anything that had scales inhabited it we made our nets and fished it out.” [Reminiscences]

Son of William Kennon Perrin and Sarah Tayloe Wormley, married Lucy Wellford Jones, 5 children.

Photo from the 1893 Page-Puller Camp group photo.
Capt. Thomas C. Clopton [62]

b. 1802, d. 1875.
Captain, Co. D, 24 VA Cav, CSA

Dr. Thomas C. Clopton was named as an Honored Gloucester Resident, noting his association with the Gloucester County Court and the House of Delegates. He was described as a veteran of the Civil War. He was in command of Company D (Clopton’s Partisan Rangers) of the 24th Virginia Cavalry, composed largely of soldiers from Middlesex and Gloucester Counties.

Photo from the Gloucester portraits of honored residents.

Capt. John Philip Taliaferro, of Toddsbury [97]

b. 1828, d. 1869, m. Eleanora Whitfield Anderson.
s/o Richard Taliaferro & Margaret Holden Stubbs.
Quartermaster Corps [WWP, p, 155n37]
Gravestone moved from Wood Cort, King & Queen Co., 1908.

Sgt. Maj. John Hairston Seawell [96]

b. 1841, d. 1929, m. Henrietta Maria Smith.
s/o John Tyler Seawell & Elizabeth Hairston.
Sgt Maj Co A 5 Va Cav
Participated in the capture of a gunboat in the Rappahannock River in 1862. [Reminiscences, p 59.]
Wife Henrietta Maria Smith buried within the wall by John Prosser Tabb fenced lot.

Maj. Tazewell Thompson [60A]

b. 1834, d. 1914.
Major C.S.A.
Interred at Norfolk Va.

WWP: Major Thompson was a trustee of Ware Church in 1883, on the vestry in 1867 and supervised repairs in 1868, including “tablets” for the chancel.

The vestry minutes of April 8, 1929, record that “Miss Mary Thompson of Norfolk would like to buy a lot in Ware Church Cemetery to be used as a memorial to her father, Major Tazewell Thompson, to be known as the Thompson Memorial, this lot to be used for the burial of any poor person not having a lot, or for any person who may not be able to secure a suitable burying place elsewhere” and the offer was accepted.
Maj. Giles Buckner Cooke [125B]
b. May 13, 1838, d. February 4, 1937
m. Martha Frances Mallory Southall (1870), Sarah Katharine Grosh (1898)
s/o John Kearns Cooke & Fannie Bracken New

Major and Assistant Adjutant
and inspector General, C.S.A.
Staff of General R. E. Lee
Teacher and Minister of the Gospel
for over 70 years.

WWP: clergyman in Mathews and last surviving member of General Lee’s staff.

After a spotty time at VMI, joined the staff of various generals during the Civil War, ending with General Lee starting in October, 1864. Kept diaries of his war years that were very important to historians.

Vowed that if he survived the war he would spend the remainder of his life in God’s service [Encyclopedia Virginia].
http://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Cooke_Giles_Buckner_1838-1937

Very involved in education of and ministry to former slaves in Petersburg, specifically St. Stephen’s Church and school. Was rector of Kingston for 11 years, afterwards in Portsmouth for 2 years then retired back to Mathews County. Married his second wife, Sarah Katharine Grosh of Cecil County, MD, in 1898 (age 60). His son, John Warren Cooke, was born in 1915 when he was 77.

Maj. Cooke is spoken about online and in Reminiscences.

Photo from Virginia Historical Society.

Col. William Todd Robins, of Level Green in Abingdon Parish [124B]
b. 1835, d. 1906, m. Martha Tabb Smith, Sally Berkeley Nelson (aft. 1874)
s/o Augustine Warner Robins & Elizabeth Todd?

Colonel C.S.A.

Inducted as a private into 24th Virginia Cavalry and promoted through the ranks. His son was Brigadier General Augustine Warner Robins, for whom Warner Robins, GA, is named.

WWP (183 n12): reared by his grandfather, William Robins of “Level Green”, in Robins Neck. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Lee’s Rangers, a cavalry company raised by William Henry Fitzhugh “Rooney” Lee, of New Kent, a son of General Robert E. Lee and was selected to lead the advance guard in General Jeb Stuart’s famous cavalry ride around Union General George McClellan, who was making his way up the Peninsula toward Richmond. Robins’ daring exploits during this maneuver against the enemy distinguished him among the men of Gloucester who fought for the Confederacy.

He was married to Sally Berkeley Nelson of “Timberneck”, Gloucester historian. Father of William Todd Robins, Jr. (1881-1884, first burial outside the wall). Elected to Abingdon Vestry after the war, moved to Ware Parish and elected to the Ware Vestry, later moved to Richmond.
**Dr. William F. Jones [134]**

b. 9 August, 1844, d. 24 January, 1916.
s/o Walter Frederick Jones & Fanny Ellen Wellford
m. Katherine Hooe

Company A, 5th Virginia Regiment, Cavalry, CSA

William Francis Jones was born in Dinwiddie County. After the war he was a doctor in Gloucester.

Photo from Find-A-Grave and the 1893 Page-Puller Camp group photo.

---

**Pvt. Thomas A. Smith [163]**

b. 1845, d. 1922.
s/o William Patterson Smith & Marion Morson Andrea Seddon

_Pri. Second Co._

_Richmond Howitzers_

Thomas Armistead Smith, buried at Glen Roy Farm, son of William Patterson Smith (1796-1878) and Marion Morson Andrea Seddon (1819-1853), and grandson of Rev. Armistead Smith (Kingston Parish). The war started when he was 16 and ended when he was 20. He died on his 77th birthday (Feb 26). His sister, Martha Tabb Smith, was the first wife of Col. William Todd Robins.

Photo from the 1893 Page-Puller Camp group photo.

---

**William A. Smith [163]**

b. 1848, d. 1925.
s/o William Patterson Smith & Marion Morson Andrea Seddon

Pictured with the 1893 Page-Puller Camp, United Confederate Veterans

Son of William Patterson Smith (1796-1878) and Marion Morson Andrea Seddon (1819-1853), brother of Thomas A. Smith and Martha Tabb Smith Robins, and grandson of Rev. Armistead Smith (Kingston Parish). Buried at Glen Roy Farm, and stone moved to Ware. He may have been in the Page-Puller Camp photo only as a relative, as he was only 13 when the war began.

Photo from the 1893 Page-Puller Camp group photo.

---

**Pvt. John Tabb [147]**

b. October 5, 1846, d. July 3, 1921
m. Judith Coleman of Halifax (1868), Mary James of Gloucester (1882)
s/o John Prosser Tabb & Rebecca Lloyd
Private, VMI Cadet Battalion, Company B

Entered VMI Class of 1867 on January 5, 1864, from Gloucester Courthouse. A cadet in Company B at the time of the battle of New Market in May, 1864, but he was not in the battle. He later wrote, “I was not in the battle because I was desperately ill in the hospital at Lexington with typhoid pneumonia at the time. When the cadets came back, covered with glory, I was distressed nearly to death that I, poor unfortunate boy, had been out of it all, and really it has been a life-long subject of regret with me.”

As a volunteer in the division commanded by Major General William Mahone, VMI ’47, he was captured at the battle of Saylor’s Creek. He and five fellow cadets were taken to General Bartlett, “Who kept us with his staff and treated us with distinguished consideration (as being cadets), and after the surrender, gave us passes signed by General Grant to go to our homes.”

“In 1868, I settled on my farm, Summerville, in Gloucester Co., Virginia, and established The Gloucester Academy for Boys.” He also spent four years in Baltimore as principal of a boys’ school there. [Couper]

John Tabb, a.k.a. John Summerville Tabb, was a member of the Page-Puller Camp of the United Confederate Veterans and is mentioned often in Reminiscences, including a long story of his time as a VMI cadet and guest of General Bartlett.

**Pvt. Richard Calvin Tinsley** [135]

b. 1838, d. 1917.

*Confederate Veteran*

Private, Company C, 24th Virginia Cavalry.

**H. W. Macrae Washington** [136]

b. 1835, d. 1915, m. Euphan Roy

*Surg U.S.N. - C.S.N.*

Dr. H. W. M. Washington was “one of the most distinguished ex-Confederate officers of this part of the country. He was the Surgeon of the iron clad “Arkansas” when she ran through the whole combined Yankee fleet and saved Vicksburg. He was the son of the late Col. John M. Washington of Buena Vista fame, the latter being General Taylor’s Chief of Artillery and said to have saved the day, with great odds, holding the famous pass against Santa Anna’s army. After that General Taylor always called him ‘My Leonidas.'” [Reminiscences, p. 71, quoting from The News Reporter, Gloucester, VA, Oct. 5, 1915]

“Dr. Washington was a great nephew of General George Washington; he was a distinguished naval officer in federal service when he, at once, resigned, to enter the service of his native state in 1861. Served throughout the war with honor.” [Reminiscences, p. 71]

**Two unknown soldiers from Burgh Westra** [chuchyard]

Burgh Westra was the hospital run by Dr. Philip Alexander Taliaferro.
REFERENCES:


CONFEDERATE VETERANS

1. Maj. Thomas Buckner Armistead II
2. Capt. Junius B. Browne
4. Capt. John Newstead Tabb
5. Dr. Philip Alexander Taliaferro
6. Maj. Thomas Seddon Taliaferro
7. Maj. William Kennon Perrin
8. Capt. Thomas C. Clopton
9. Capt. John Philip Taliaferro
11. Maj. Tazewell Thompson
12. Maj. Giles Buckner Cooke
13. Col. William Todd Robins
14. Dr. William F. Jones
15. Pvt. Thomas A. Smith
16. William A. Smith
17. Pvt. John Tabb
18. Pvt. Richard Calvin Tinsley
19. Dr. H. W. Macrae Washington
20. Unknown Soldiers